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SPECIAL CONSUMER NOTICE
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NOTICE

On 1 June 1987 FBIS will begin publication of reorganized and renamed DAILY REPORTS. The following list details the changes being made in the eight volumes.

I.	CHINA DAILY REPORT	Contents unchanged
II.	EASTERN EUROPE DAILY REPORT	Contents unchanged
III.	SOVIET UNION DAILY REPORT	Contents unchanged
IV.	EAST ASIA DAILY REPORT	Renamed; formerly ASIA & PACIFIC DAILY REPORT; contents unchanged
V.	NEAR EAST & SOUTH ASIA DAILY REPORT	Renamed; formerly MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA DAILY REPORT; contents include: Middle East & South Asia Review Inter-Arab Affairs Islamic Affairs Palestinian Affairs OPEC Affairs South Asian Regional Affairs Arab Africa Algeria Chad Egypt Libya Mauritania Morocco Sudan Tunisia Western Sahara Arabian Peninsula Bahrain Kuwait Oman PDRY Qatar Saudi Arabia United Arab Emirates Yemen Arab Republic Iraq Israel Jordan Lebanon Syria South Asia Afghanistan Bangladesh India Iran Maldives Nepal & Bhutan Pakistan Sri Lanka
VI.	LATIN AMERICA DAILY REPORT	Contents unchanged

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SENATOR SAYS OBEDIENCE BILL COULD BECOME AMNESTY

PY191523 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 18 May 87 p 7

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- The Due Obedience Bill, which was passed by the Lower House early on Saturday morning, will be sent to the Senate constitutional affairs, general legislation and defence committees today and is expected to be debated on the Senate floor by tomorrow.

Peronist Senator Vicente Saadi (Catamarca) hinted at the possibility that the original bill approved by the Lower House will be turned into a general amnesty for all military officers regardless of their rank or responsibility during the dirty war against left-wing subversion.

There are currently four proposals for a total amnesty submitted by senators Luis Salim (Orthodox Peronist-Santiago del Estero), Gabriel Feris (Autonomist-Corrientes), Leopoldo Bravo (Bloquista-San Juan), and Manuel Vidal (Movement for Integration and Development-Formosa).

These plans to extend a virtual pardon to high-ranking military officers would "complicate" what could otherwise have been a routine procedure in the Senate, Congress sources suggested yesterday.

The Lower House Radical caucus led by deputy Cesar Jaroslavsky (Entre Rios) had earlier announced that any amendments to the original bill pointing to a general amnesty would be rejected when the bill returns to the Lower House for a second reading.

Renewal Peronist Deputy Carlos Grosso meanwhile said the government is trying to pass a virtual amnesty under the pretext of a "non-existent military ultimatum."

Grosso said there is a strong psychological campaign to convince congressmen and the population in general of what he termed the "remote" possibility of a coup d'etat.

The Radical Youth leadership meanwhile expressed support for the "permanent attitude of President Raul Alfonsin towards the strengthening of the democratic system."

After a meeting with the president yesterday the Radical Youth released a statement considering there is "a need to work toward a military reform and the submission of the Armed Forces to republican institutions."

Radical Youth leader Carlos Raimundi had earlier said "the defence of the democratic system is more important than case-by-case verdicts."

The Grandmothers of Plaza de Mayo on the other hand rejected the Lower House decision on the due obedience law and the argument that "negotiating with murderers can lead to peace." The Grandmothers said "the government underestimates collective common sense, which believes that only justice can guarantee" that human rights crimes will never make a comeback.

CGT labour affairs secretary Jose Pedraza said the current military structure undermines the democratic system and pointed out the government continues to implement makeshift solutions to serious problems.

Lower House minority leader Jose Luis Manzano (Renewal Peronist-Mendoza) said the existence of military presssures could not be denied while Radical deputy Raul Baglini (Mendoza) claimed his party "accepts no pressures." Baglini yesterday insisted that "the pardon should be extended to high-ranking officers."

Mendoza Archbishop Candido Rubiolo expressed support for the Lower House vote on the Due Obedience Bill and said "the greater part of Argentine society has finally realized the need for a reconciliation."

In the ongoing human rights trials, former intelligence agent Raul Guglielminetti will testify before the Bahia Blanca Federal Appeal Court today in the case investigating crimes against humanity committed under the jurisdiction of the Fifth Army Corps.

Former naval commander-in-chief Emilio Massera will be questioned by judge Amelia Berraz de Vidal on charges of rebellion against a constitutional government.

Minister Denies Amnesty Rumors

PY192103 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1312 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] Madrid, 19 May (TELAM-ANSA) -- In an interview published by TIEMPO today, Argentine Defense Minister Horacio Jaunarena said the Argentine Government is not considering the possibility of an amnesty. He added he is firmly convinced that there will be no more coup attempts. The government is not studying the possibility of granting an amnesty, said Jaunarena. We have to leave the extremes and find a middle ground, he added.

Do you believe a subordinate would obey an order to torture? he was asked. Jaunarena answered that the Code of Military Justice says the superior officer is always responsible if a subordinate commits a crime while fulfilling an order. The minister noted, however, that the degree of responsibility of those who gave the orders and those who executed them is not clearly determined. He said this juridical ambiguity is giving rise to some anxiety in the Armed Forces.

I am firmly convinced events similar to the ones that occurred during Holy Week will not be repeated because the Armed Forces' concern will be allayed by a clarification of the responsibility issue, the minister conluded.

MONTONERO LEADER SENTENCED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT

PY192114 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1610 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 May (NA) -- San Martin Federal Judge Carlos Luft today sentenced former Montonero leader Mario Eduardo Fermenich to life imprisonment, specifying indefinite detention. Firmenich was found guilty of two counts of kidnapping, extortion, and murder in the case of businessmen Jorge and Juan Born, who were killed in 1974.

However, the life imprisonment will actually last only 30 years. This means that if the sentence is confirmed by the Courts of Appeals, it will be considered served at 1200 on 13 February 2014, because this is the longest sentence Brazilian law provides for. Firmenich was extradited from Brazil.

BOMB DEFUSED AT ARMY INTELLIGENCE OFFICER'S HOUSE

PY191429 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1233 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] Posario, 19 May (NA) -- A powerful bomb was defused early this morning by the Bomb Squad of the Santa Fe Province Police's Regional Unit No 2 at the home of Colonel Funes, intelligence chief of the II Army Corps, based in this city.

The unknown individuals who planted the bomb painted the following slogan on the wall of a house across the street from Funes' house: "Death to those guilty of genocide. People's Revolutionary Army (ERP)" together with the eight-pointed star that is the symbol of that guerrilla organization. Neighbors reported the slogan was written early this morning with red spray paint.

Police sources have expressed their surprise over the slogan, because the ERP as an organization has not been active for several years, and it has not claimed responsibility for the failed attack except by the slogan. The bomb, which contained 1 and 1/2 kg of TNT, was defused at 0530 after a patrol car from the 6th Precinct discovered it on the doorsteps of a house at 2609 Santa Fe St., in the downtown area of this city. No one is currently living in the house because it is being renovated. According to police sources, the bomb did not explode because one of its detonators apparently failed. The bomb was made up of three layers of TNT.

WORLD BANK APPROVES $500-MILLION LOAN 20 MAY

PY200340 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 20 May 87

[Text] Finance Ministry sources have reported that the World Bank Board of Directors today approved a $500-million loan to Argentina. The funds will be used to promote foreign trade. It was reported the credit will support the government strategy that seeks to promote growth through foreign trade.

FINANCE SECRETARY MEETS WITH EUROPEAN BANKERS

PY192146 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1505 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 May (NA) -- Finance Secretary Mario Brodersohn today said the meeting he held in Frankfurt with representatives of 44 private banks of 7 European countries to discuss "interest rates and international prices," among other things, was "very positive."

Brodersohn, who explained to the European bankers "the Argentine economic program," which has the support of the World Bank and private financial organizations, said "there were good reactions from various countries in support of Argentina." Brodersohn made these comments in Germany to ATC [Argentine Televisora Color]. He also said "there is a war on agricultural subsidies raging between the United States and the EEC." He said "this war is having serious negative effects on Argentina because of the fall in international prices, which curtails our export capacity."

PAZ ESTENSSORO RECEIVES MALAYSIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

PY151535 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] President Victor Paz Estenssoro met with Malaysian Foreign Minister Tengku Abdul Rithdauddeen at Government Palace yesterday afternoon. During the meeting, they exchanged ideas on increased cooperation, especially in the struggle against drug trafficking. On leaving Government Palace, the Malaysian foreign minister told reporters his government is observing with satisfaction the efforts Bolivia is making in the struggle against drug trafficking. He added that bilateral economic cooperation and financial relations deserve separate treatment and that they will be included in the joint declaration the two countries will sign at the Foreign Ministry.

Bolivian Foreign Minister Guillermo Bedregal Gutierrez has stressed the importance of the Malaysian foreign minister's visit and of the ties that have united the two countries for many years.

The Malaysian foreign minister also held meetings today with the interior minister to discuss the struggle against drug trafficking. In addition to the Malaysian foreign minister, a delegation of Malaysian Foreign Ministry officials and other government officials is also visiting the country.

Agreements Signed

PY261928 Paris AFP in Spanish 1445 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] La Paz, 16 May (AFP) -- It was officially reported here today that Bolivia and Malaysia have signed cooperation agreements on issues ranging from the struggle against drug trafficking to Malaysian technical support in the production of rubber, chestnut, palm trees, tin, and gold. The agreement was signed by Malaysian Foreign Minister Tengku Abdul Rithauddeen -- on the last day of his visit here -- and by his Bolivian counterpart Guillermo Bedregal Gutierrez.

Rithauddeen and Bedregal also signed a joint declaration in which the Malaysian and Bolivian Governments expressed the need to defend the principles of noninterventnion and self-determination of nations.

BRIEFS

GAS PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION -- Hydrocarbons General Director Alberto Palacios has reported the construction of the gas pipeline to the Altiplano region is 31.53 percent complete. This pipeline will connect Cochabamba with Santa Cruz and will join the Altiplano pipeline system constructed years ago. This pipeline, which is being constructed by a Mexican company and a Bolivian company, will transport 40 million cubic feet of gas daily. [Excerpt] [La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 May 87 PY]

ITAMARATY SILENT ON IRAQI ATTACK ON U.S. SHIP

PY200144 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 19 May 87 p A-10

[Text] Brasilia -- The Brazilian Foreign Ministry has declined to comment on the incident involving the U.S. frigate Stark. Itamaraty advocates a negotiated solution to the Iran-Iraq war.

Brazil maintains diplomatic and trade relations with Iran and Iraq. In 1985, Iraq was Brazil's second largest trade partner after the United States. Brazil imports Iraqi oil and exports a list of 700 items, including weapons, to Iraq.

Since the time of Foreign Minister Olavo Setubal, Brazil has maintained an impartial position on the Iran-Iraq war. In a joint Brazilian-Iraqi communique signed in May 1986, Brazilian Foreign Minister Abreu Sodre reiterated his support for initiatives that would end the hostilities.

DAILY SAYS SARNEY TO ADOPT FIRM POLICY

PY161414 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 15 May 87 p 4

[By Flamarion Mossri]

[Text] President Jose Sarney has finally decided to adopt a firm policy. From now on, he intends to conduct the political-administrative process without accepting impositions and vetos, either from the PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party] or the PFL [Liberal Front Party]. The president believes he will have the necessary political-congressional support during this new phase and that the governors, most of whom belong to the PMDB, the PFL, and smaller parties such as the PTB [Brazilian Labor Party], PL [Liberal Party], and the PCB [Brazilian Communist Party], will back him.

Sarney's new position was revealed by influential politicians of the PMDB and PFL, who met with him at Planalto and Alvorada Palaces during the past few days. The president continues to be tense and worried, and he complains about the lack of support from the PMDB and the PFL to his government in and out of Congress. But now he has decided to react. He still disagrees with the PMDB leadership's veto of the appointment of Ceara Governor Tasso Jerissati to replace Dilson Funaro as finance minister.

The president, always complaining about the lack of political-partisan support, commented that the two parties that make up the Democratic Alliance prefer to exert pressure, to veto, and to criticize rather than to make objective suggestions to try to cushion the socio-economic crisis. By coincidence or not, PMDB leader Deputy Luiz Henrique yesterday visited the president of the Republic at Planalto Palace. He was accompanied by the economic commission of the Chamber of Deputies, and he delivered alternative proposals to solve the economic-financial difficulties.

PMDB and PFL ministers, governors, and congressmen assert that President Sarney will now change this style. He will stop being indecisive and too patient and contemplative. He no longer expects to solve problems by waiting. In the political-institutional sector, the president is promoting the establishment of an intra-party bloc with representatives of the PMDB, PFL, PTB, PCB, (and, possibly, the PDS [Social Democratic Party], with the purpose of promoting a democratic transition.

The initiative of presidential adviser Saulo Ramos to prepare a new presidential system, which was submitted to the Constituent Assembly by Carlos Sant'Anna's follower, Parana State Deputy Borges da Silveira, is part of Sarney's new approach to problems regarding the government system and the length of his term in office.

The proposal is being analyzed by influential PMDB and PFL sectors, which have harshly criticized the mixed parliamentary system suggested by Senator Jose Fogaca (Rio Grande do Sul), coordinator of the executive branch subcommittee. According to Carlos Sant'Anna, what is sought is an authentic new presidential system for modern Brazil.

According to those who have met with him recently, Sarney decided to follow the advice of influential politicians of the Democratic Alliance to modify his actions as chief of state and chief of government. He is determined that his government set the guidelines in the political-institutional and economic-financial fields. It will be up to him and his allies in Congress and the states to pave the way for support for his plans in the state administrations and the Constituent Assembly.

The president is not contemplating breaking his ties with the PMDB and the PFL, but he is determined -- according to those who have spoken with him -- not to yield to pressure for or against any minister, or any decision.

Evaluating the informal meetings with ministers, governors, and congressmen, Sarney concluded that because the length of his term is being questioned by the political parties that support him, he is more open to criticism from both inside and outside the government. Everyday, due to his indecision and lack of definition, due to his failure to resist unsolicited advice and pressure, the president's image has deteriorated, and he runs the risk of weakening the democratic regime, creating obstacles to the transition, and making the work of the National Constituent Assembly difficult.

Everything seems to indicate that Sarney has finally decided to pound his fist on the table and stop the hindering maneuvers of the partisan leaders, beginning with the PMDB.

BRESSER HINTS NONPAYMENT OF PARIS CLUB INTEREST

PY191114 Paris AFP in Spanish 0449 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] Brasilia, 18 May (AFP) -- Brazilian Finance Minister Luiz Carlos Bresser Pereira tonight stated that Brazil could suspend the payment of interests on its debt with the member countries of the Paris Club.

According to remarks made by Finance Ministry Spokesman Francisco Backer to the press, Bresser Pereira had said that suspension of payments could go into effect if the official banks of countries belonging to the Paris Club do not reestablish their lines of credit with Brazil.

On 21 January this year, Brazil signed with the Paris Club an agreement rescheduling, over 6 years with a 3-year grace period, the payment of more than $4 billion of its foreign debt. This amount represents overdue payments of principal and interest in 1985 and 1986 amounting to $3.274 billion plus amortization of principal due in the first half of 1987. The full amount outstanding was $4.122 billion. Furthermore, Brazil promised to normalize the payments on its debt to the governments of countries represented in the Paris Club as of 1 July 1987.

After Brazil unilaterally decided to suspend payment of interest on its foreign debt of more than $110 billion on 20 February this year, it continued to fulfill its commitments to the Paris Club and to official international credit agencies.

Further on Bresser Comments

PY200149 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2255 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] Brazil may extend its moratorium to the official banks of countries belonging to the Paris Club. Finance Minister Bresser Pereira today said in Brasilia that the government may be forced to take this measure if the exchange reserves continue to fall.

During a press conference granted to foreign journalists, Bresser explained that Brazil this year needs a trade surplus of $8 billion and $6 billion in new loans, $4 billion from private banks and $2 billion from state banks.

Bresser said he is optimistic and that he has faith an agreement will be reached with the banks to prevent the extension of the moratorium. The minister's inflation rate prediction is pessimistic. He expects 20 percent for May and that it will remain at that level for some time.

MILITARY MINISTERS OPPOSE BILL ON INTERMEDIARIES

PY160348 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE PAULO in Portuguese 15 May 87 p A-5

[Text] Brasilia -- Armed Forces General Staff [EMFA] Chief General Paulo Campos Paiva yesterday stated that "we endorse the idea that the military ministers must always remain directly linked to the president. The president is the Armed Forces chief of staff and between the president and ourselves, his subordinates, as is the case with the military ministers, there should be no intermediaries, even if the intermediary is a prime minister."

Yesterday, the EMFA sent a general, two brigadiers general, and a rear admiral to the International Seminar on Constitutionalism and Democracy, which was held at the Central Bank auditorium in Brasilia. The officers endorsed the idea that the Armed Forces should continue to maintain domestic security. Rear Admiral Sergio Tasso de Aquino, General Oswaldo Pereira Gomes, Brigadier General Sidney Obino Azambuja spoke during the seminar.

The military ministers -- headed by Army Minister General Leonidas Pires Goncalves -- are not pleased with the prospect of being censured by Congress, something that could happen if the parliamentary system were implemented in the country. Thus, the military ministers oppose a report made by Senator Jose Fogaca (Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party -- Rio Grande do Sul State), sponsor of a subcommission of the executive branch.

Sarney has the assistance of Deputy Carlos Sant'Anna (Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party -- Bahia State), and the government leader in the Chamber of Deputies, Ramos, who used a bill drawn up by deputy Borges da Silveira (Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party -- Parana State) and rewrote the text following Sarney's suggestions.

The Borges da Silveira bill, which has already been submitted to the Constituent Assembly board, establishes that the military ministers, the foreign minister, and the civilian household chief will be subordinated to the president.

DRUG TRAFFICKERS DETAINED, 357 KILOS COCAINE CONFISCATED

PY192325 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 16 May 87 p 14

[Excerpts] A Cessna airplane carrying 357 kg of cocaine was captured by the Federal Police on the night of 14 May soon after landing in the Atibaia airport, 60 km from Sao Paulo. The four individuals on board the plane were arrested. These three Bolivians and one Argentine revealed most of their cargo was meant for the United States and Europe. This is the largest cocaine shipment ever seized in Brazil.

Alfredo Mario Mingolla, the Argentine who claims to have worked for the intelligence services of three countries, has given information about the owner of the shipment and traffic routes. He also informed the Brazilian Federal Police about the connections between terrorist and powerful drug trafficking groups of the continent. He said "the objective is to earn more dollars for the guerrillas and to buy weapons."

Brazilian Federal Police Director General Romeu Tuma talked with Mingolla, and despite some skepticism, said he had already heard in antidrug conferences about terrorists trafficking many kilos of cocaine. Tuma said: "He seemed quite sincere. He even said that in 1983 the UNHCR (UN High Commissioner for Refugees) helped him get out of prison in Bolivia." Yesterday, the Federal Police Department [DPF] sent a message to the Argentine Government to enquire if Mingolla is sought by the police there.

The police has been waiting for the arrival of the Cessna plane, number PT-EKB, for more than a month. According to reports from the DPF in Brasilia, the cocaine shipment belonged to a Bolivian drug trafficker known as "Captain Flores," the successor of Roberto Soares, who over the last 20 years has been considered the main cocaine trafficker in the Beni department of Bolivia. Soares had been so powerful that he once offered to pay off the Bolivian foreign debt if his son, who had been captured by U.S. police, was released. [passage omitted]

The Federal Police believe that Alfredo Mario Mingolla, born in Arrecifes, Buenos Aires province, is Captain Flores' most trusted man. The two were in prison together in 1983 in La Paz, at the disposal of the Interior Ministry. Mingolla hardly spoke to journalists but said sarcastically that he had worked for the information services of the Guatemalan, Argentine, and Bolivian Governments, following the movements of South American communists. Mingolla said he had been a military aide to the Army Psychology Department and that he received orders from Bolivian Army Chief of Staff General Celso Torrillo. [passage omitted]

RSA'S ARCHBISHOP TUTU BLAMES GOVERNMENT FOR DEATHS

MB190646 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] Archbishop Desmond Tutu has accused the Pretoria Government of causing the deaths of thousands of blacks and has urged all nations to break relations with South Africa. Speaking at the start of a 5-day visit to Brazil, the Anglican archbishop has told a news conference that an estimated 2,000 black people have been assassinated by the forces linked to the NP [National Party] government since 1984. The South African Government and an independent monitoring group both reported in March that about 2,400 people had died in violent incidents in the country in the last 2 and 1/2 years.

CNT'S SEGUEL CRITICIZES DISUNITY AMONG WORKERS

PY182338 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 1700 GMT 18 May 87

[Text] National Workers Command [CNT] President Rodolfo Seguel has said that the unity of the CNT and the possible creation of a united workers federation is being seriously threatened by the opinions of some union leaders who oppose the campaign for free elections. Seguel said that on 14 May a CNT member union leader expressed his rejection of the campaign for free elections and the registration of voters.

Seguel was referring to the statements made by Communist leaders of the mining confederation. Unfortunately, he said, these leaders do not understand we are asking for free elections precisely because there currently are none.

[Begin Seguel recording] We clearly said that if we are asking for free elections it is because currently there are none taking place in this country. We must exert pressure if we are to have them.

Some people have publicly advocated elections without Pinochet. But we say free elections without Pinochet are not realistic. Why should we hold free elections without Pinochet? Would the elections be free without Pinochet? Would they be free, democratic, elections, with freedom of information for all of us? Would we be able to participate without arguing? [end recording]

Rodolfo Seguel said the support for the campaign for free elections was decided by a consensus in the CNT. But the union leaders who rejected them have done so through their grass roots organizations.

[Begin Seguel recording] What have they really done? They have seriously endangered the unity of the CNT. I am very concerned about this because, at the current moment, we cannot exist on partisan politics.

I am sorry to have to inform the public about this, but if I let this situation continue, I would be closing my eyes to a problem which grows worse among CNT leaders. This situation also endangers the creation of the United Workers Federation, and the unitary, autonomous, and pluralist structure of the CNT. [end recording]

If we want a democracy, we should respect the internal democracy of the CNT, Rodolfo Seguel said. He also criticized the meeting that took place in Mendoza, Argentina, among Chilean union leaders and the representatives of an international workers organization. He said the problems of the Chilean workers should be resolved and analyzed inside Chile, among the national union leaders.

VALDES WARNS OF REGIME PLAN FOR ELECTORAL FRAUD

PY200258 Paris AFP in Spanish 0040 GMT 20 May 87

[Text] Santiago, 19 May (AFP) -- Gabriel Valdes, the leader of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], today in Santiago asserted that Chilean President Augusto Pinochet is preparing a great electoral fraud to remain in power until 1997.

In a message addressed to the nation broadcast over the radio, Valdes warned that Chile is on the threshold of decisive moments, referring to the arrangements for the plebiscite scheduled for 1989 when General Pinochet's presidential mandate expires.

The Constitution enacted 6 years ago establishes that in 1989 the Armed Forces will propose a candidate to head the government. This candidate could be Pinochet himself, who came to power in September 1973 after the military coup against socialist President Salvador Allende.

Valdes stated that the regime is not planning to hold free elections. He charged that it is registering military officers and especially the troops with the electoral courts, as well as using the state apparatus in favor of Pinochet's candidacy.

Valdes, whose party is the main opposition force, went on to say that with this background and taking into account past experience, we can assert that a great political electoral fraud is being organized under the shroud of legality. He added that all the democratic parties must, therefore, reach a joint decision to prevent Chile from suffering utmost violence, which is what will result from Pinochet's intention to retain power.

Valdes, who was foreign minister in the administration of Christian Democratic President Eduardo Frei (1964-1970), charged Pinochet with closing all possibilities to a constitutional reform that would allow an election with more than one candidate.

He stressed that this situation makes a dialogue with the Armed Forces necessary, as was proposed last September by the member parties of the Democratic Alliance, to seek a peaceful solution to the Chilean crisis before it is too late. The purpose of this dialogue, according to Valdes, would be to amend the Constitution, hold elections, abolish repressive laws, and restore all the rights of political parties.

Valdes said we are willing to form a government for Chile based on a realistic and national program with those parties that agree on the strategy and respect for democracy.

INTERPOL SEARCHES FOR SEP 1986 PINOCHET ATTACKER

PY102207 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1303 GMT 18 May 87

[Text] Santiago, 18 May (EFE) -- A picture of a Chilean terrorist involved in the attempt on Chilean President General Augusto Pinochet's life has been distributed to 138 countries. This information has been released by the Chilean state-run television channel, which said the picture is being distributed through Interpol.

The terrorist is identified as Adriana Mendoze Candia, also known as Fabiola, the only woman who, according to the investigations, directly participated in the attack, shooting at the presidential escort. Five presidential bodyguards died in the attack on 7 September 1986.

BARCO SWEARS IN NEW MINISTERS, DENIES PRESSURE

PA181932 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 May 87

[Excerpt] The cabinet changes were not due to political pressures of any kind, President Virgilio Barco said today at the swearing in of the six new ministers. Here is Ricardo Canon with more details about the cabinet reshuffle:

[Begin recording] [Canon] The new ministers of government, finance, economic development, education, communications, and justice were sworn in by President Virgilio Barco today. The new officials, three of whom were transferred from other ministries, promised to continue their predecessors' policies. Meanwhile, President Barco said that as in soccer, it is a team preparing to begin its second half. The chief of state replied to those who criticized the cabinet changes.

[Barco] It is normal for governments to make adjustments as situations change, as opportunities arise, and I thought this would be a good moment to make a change with calmness and without any pressure. I think it is not only a modification of the tasks but also, as I said, it is a change with stability of principles and with stability in the officials. [end recording] [passage omitted]

ELN CLAIMS RESPONSIBILITY FOR UP MURDERS

PA191521 Bogota Radio Sutatenza Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] The National Liberation Army [ELN] claimed to have committed the murders of two UP [Patriotic Union] members in Meta and Cesar Departments, and pointed out that UP is playing up to the bourgeois. The ELN was referring to the murder of Gabriel Alfredo Briceno, a councilman who was killed in Meta, and Gerardo Ortiz Sierra, leader in the La Jagua de Ibirico region. The rebel movement accused these people of only being interested in their personal gains.

AUTHORITIES SEIZE COCAINE PROCESSING LABORATORY

PA142327 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 May 87

[Text] Authorities today in Valle del Cauca seized another cocaine processing laboratory. The laboratory had not yet been used. This is the fourth blow the authorities have recently inflicted on drug-traffickers. By yesterday the authorities had seized more than 500 kg of cocaine, arms, and vehicles in that region.

The cocaine laboratory, which was under construction, was discovered in a farm in the area of Arroyo Hondo, by Cali's Metropolitan Police Department.

According to information released by authorities in charge of the operation, the raid began at 0500. The authorities seized the following materiel for processing drugs: 14 containers of potassium permanganate, a .22 caliber shotgun [as heard], and several elements for the contruction of a laboratory. This week, the authorities, waging a major struggle against drug trafficking, discovered four laboratories where more than 500 kg of cocaine was seized.

POLICE CLASH WITH STUDENTS PROTESTING U.S. TROOPS

PA200119 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 0051 GMT 20 May 87

[Text] Quito, 19 May (REUTER) -- The police clashed here today with students protesting the U.S. military presence in Ecuador, resulting in three injured, one of them a policeman, and 10 demonstrators arrested.

A press communique released by the president's office states that a policeman was burned on the legs by a Molotov cocktail and that his attacker was arrested.

VARGAS ACCUSES GOVERNMENT OF INVOLVEMENT IN ATTACK

PA190240 Paris AFP in Spanish 1826 GMT 18 May 87

[Text] Bogota, 18 May (AFP) -- General Frank Vargas, victim of an unsuccessful attack in Quito last Saturday, told Colombian radio station CARACOL today that the attack had been ordered by "a top Ecuadoran Government official."

Vargas, former chief of the Air Force and presently a candidate for the presidential elections in 1984, said the militaryman who wanted to kill him during a rally was not drunk, as was first thought.

"At first the man pretended to be sick, as if he were a handicapped person. He got close and drew a revolver. He was caught, arrested, and taken to a jail," Vargas told a Colombian journalist who questioned him.

Gen Vargas said he later met with the man and he was "in perfect condition. The man was frightened and said he was sorry and that it was not his fault and he was just obeying orders."

Vargas said his "murderer" had accused a "top government official" and that in exchange for the crime he would receive an automobile.

Vargas was arrested in March 1986 after attempting to revolt against President Leon Febres Cordero's Conservative government. Last January he was released from prison in exchange for the release of President Cordero, who had been kidnapped and held hostage in a Guayaquil air base by members of the Air Force who were followers of Vargas.

POLICE SAY REBELS SOUGHT NICARAGUAN AID

PA200313 Paris AFP in Spanish 2328 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] Guayaquil, Ecuador, 19 May (AFP) -- Members of the Ecuadoran Alfaro Lives Damnit (AVC) subversive group traveled to Nicaragua in 1986 and February 1987 to request financial assistance for terrorism and subversion in Ecuador, the Ecuardoran police announced in a written report.

The report was issued in response to statements by several people arrested last week at "a safe house" in Guayaquil where weapons and dynamite were also seized.

The police identified Bennet Garcin Nazareno, Ruben Ramirez Romeero, Jimmy Solorzano, and "others" whose names were not disclosed "to avoid hindering the investigation" as the subversives who traveled to Nicaragua to demand aid for their activities.

Ecuador and Nicaragua broke off relations 2 years ago after an incident between Presidents Leon Febre Cordero and Daniel Ortega.

Those arrested and other Ecuardoran subversives had also been in Colombia participating in the disbanded American Battalion, comprised of members of the AVC, M-19 of Colombia, and Tupac Amaru of Peru, the report states.

Meanwhile, the police identified Jose Barahona as a member of an AVC "death tribunal" that "eliminates squealers." According to the police, Barahona revealed that on 4 April 1987 he murdered his subversive companion Carlos Flores, who was found with his hands tied, blindfolded, with a bullet wound in his face.

More on Arrested Rebels

PA190347 Paris AFP in Spanish 2351 GMT 18 May 87

[Text] Quito, 18 May (AFP) -- The Ecuadoran National Police's general command announced today that three "lieutenants" of the international subversive America Battalion, who perpetrated several crimes in Colombia, have been arrested in Quito. The arrested men are members of the subversive Ecuadoran group Alfaro Lives, Damnit (AVC), which along with the M-19 in Colombia and Tupac Amaru in Peru comprised the so-called America Battalion.

According to the police, the prisoners have confessed to their particpation in the takeover of Toribio; an ambush and raid on Benalcazar, where they caused many Colombian Army casualties; the theft of weapons; and the destruction of several armored personnel carriers in Colombia.

The police report reveals the prisoners were promoted to the rank of lieutenant in the international organization as a result of those actions. They recently returned to Ecuador to carry out a series of terrorist actions which include kidnappings, murders, and attacks with explosives.

According to the police report, subversive actions in Ecuador were paralyzed following the death of the main rebel leaders, and due to continuous arrests of leaderless subversives. Local authorities have used the occasion "to step up investigations to definitely annihilate the rebel groups."

BRIEFS

TRADE BALANCE STATISTICS -- The suspension of oil exports affected the trade balance in March when Ecuador registered a deficit of $27.5 million. Imports in March amounted to $145.3 million, in February $158 million, and in January $153 million. Oil shipments were suspended in March as a result of the 5 March earthquake that damaged the oil pipelines, and exports were then reduced to $117.8 million, while in February exports amounted to $190.6 million, and in January, $214.9 million. [Summary] [Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 18 May 87 PA]

ARCHBISHOP DELIVERS INDEPENDENCE DAY HOMILY

PY152208 Asuncion Red Nacional de Television in Spanish 1250 GMT 15 May 87

[Homily by Archbishop of Asuncion Ismael Rolon during Te Deum on the 176th annniversary of Paraguayan independence in the presence of President Alfredo Stroessner in the Cathedral in Asuncion -- live]

[Text] Fifty years have passed since the first National Eucharistic Congress in Paraguay. We are now preparing ourselves spiritually to officiate at the Second National Eucharistic Congress under the motto "Jesus in the eucharist for a new Paraguay." This motto sums up the shared hopes and aspirations of all Paraguayans. The current social, political, and historical moment speaks in various ways of this popular aspiration.

The political parties speak of it through their intra- and extra-party conflicts and misunderstandings. The media report and analyze the situation. The youth are watching with expectations. The people are waiting.

We must not forget that evolution and development are the natural laws for living creatures. Thus, plants, animals, and men go on renewing their cellular structures throughout time. These natural changes are governed by physiochemichal and biological laws which are rigid, but oriented toward the single goal of fulfillment of self. Only nonliving matter exists by itself, immovable and immutable. By analogy, the living matter that comprises mankind and society seek fulfillment, through the profound changes of structures, using intelligence, will, and sentiments of man. These changes must be freely and jointly conceived, planned, and implemented.

The history of our fatherland teaches us that the country's independence was gained instantaneously and somewhat easily. This was so because its makers, our forefathers, acted jointly under an agreed plan.

Therefore, violence should not be necessary to bring about social changes. These changes in fact call for decision and firmness, provided that such changes respect the nature of man, society, and life itself. This is indeed a difficult and slow task, because radical changes can only be brought about by men with a new way of thinking, with new ideals, good intentions, honesty, ability, and patriotism -- working gradually. These changes cannot necessarily be accomplished by changing individuals, but by changing ways of thinking and objectives. When the people are sufficiently aware and informed through a process of truthful communications, joint and wise deliberations, and clear and just propositions, they will be in real and responsible position to choose and approve changes in free and democratic elections. The only purpose of any change must be the attainment and enjoyment of the common good, with everyone partaking thereof. Changes must not be intended for the sole benefit of oligarchies.

Not all that is new is good, just because it is new; not all that is past should be rejected merely because it is past. History teaches us that mankind and its generations advance by taking the past as a point of reference, with its achievements and failures, as though climbing step by step toward the future. Development means the passing from less human to more human living conditions for each and every man. It means to move from destitution to having a home on one's own land, to having a steady job, to earn one's living, to participating more and more in the social responsibility for situations that offend the dignity of man, and finally to recognizing the foremost values of truth, justice, freedom, and love. It should lead us to the recognition of God and Jesus Christ, who invite all of us to participate, as children, in the life of the living God, the father of all men.

The Gospel contains interesting and significant details. Look at the time Christ multiplied the fish and bread to feed over 5,000 men in the desert. There we see God's policy, the way He has always governed the world and its people. After those 5,000 men followed Jesus for 3 days, the disciples realized that the people had nothing to eat and that they themselves had nothing to give them. So they told the Lord about the critical situation. They understood the situation. Jesus acted immediately and performed a miracle, with the help of God. However, he ordered the apostles to distribute the food. This shows the importance of help, cooperation for the common good.

We will not be able to take a complete step forward if we do not have a consensus and the support of all the men who have goodwill and are capable, such as those from the political, the economic, cultural education, technical, scientific, and religious forces. The path we must follow must be outlined and approved by the community, because the development we want is for each and every citizen. We believe that the national dialogue is a logical and valid instrument through which to attain this consensus and support necessary for our progress.

The eucharist is food for the soul and is capable of transforming man into another Christ, so that this new man, in turn, may be capable of transforming the world into a civilization of love, a kingdom of justice, love, and peace. This eucharistic year will prepare us for this meeting with Jesus who is present and lives in the eucharist so that altogether we may build a new Paraguay.

No one should consider himself estranged, indifferent, or free from this social, human, and Christian commitment. I will conclude with Saint Paul's message to the Ephesians: Let peace prevail among you and remain united in spirit because one is God, the father of all men. Amen.

OPPOSITION LEADER SAGUIER, OTHERS DETAINED BRIEFLY

PY172215 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 16 May 87 p 7

[Text] Miguel Abdon Saguier, the leader of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party (PLRA), was arrested yesterday while attending a meeting of the Popular Mobilization for Change Movement [Movimiento Movilizacion Popular Para el Cambio] in the 10th district of Capiata. Francisco de Vargas and the owner of the house where the meeting was being held were also arrested.

The reason the police gave for the arrest was that "they did not have police authorization to meet."

Miguel Abdon Saguier and the other two persons arrested at the meeting in Capiata were released in the afternoon, dispelling fears that they would be transferred to the Central Police Headquarters on orders from higher authorities. The Capiata police chief had suggested to some PLRA leaders who went to Capiata to inquire about Saguier's arrest that this would happen.

SHOOT-OUT REPORTED NEAR CONGRESSIONAL BUILDING

PY181756 Paris AFP in Spanish 1739 GMT 18 May 87

[Text] Lima, 18 May (AFP) -- According to eyewitnesses, Peruvian Army soldiers fired submachineguns near the congressional building at noon today in order to break up a demonstration by striking policemen.

The shooting lasted approximately 5 minutes and created panic among the passersby along Abancay Avenue, where there is usually heavy traffic at that time of the day.

Initially, there were no reports of injuries. The stores that were open in the area closed their doors.

Civilian Killed

PY190139 Paris AFP in Spanish 0014 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] Lima, 18 May (AFP) -- A civilian died here today from a stray bullet during a shooting incident related to the strike the Peruvian police started 4 days ago.

Valentin Irazabal, 40, was hit by the stray bullet at noon today outside the Sheraton Hotel. A shoot-out was taking place in the area at the time.

After being seriously wounded, Irazabal was taken to a public hospital, where he died at 1600. It is not known who fired the fatal shot.

PRC DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR OFFICIAL VISIT 18 MAY

PY191933 Lima Radioprogramas del Peru Network in Spanish 1815 GMT 18 May 87

[Text] Upon his arrival in Lima for a 6-day official visit, Huang Hua, vice president of the PRC National People's Congress [NPC] Standing Committee, said that the Peruvian decision on the payment of the foreign debt is sensible. Huang Hua stressed the common viewpoint of the Peruvian Congress and the PRC's NPC regarding the defense of world peace and the joint development of the economies of Third World countries.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified PRC spokesman] Intercongressional relations between the PRC and Peru have a good, solid base because both countries agree on the international situation as far as the defense of world peace and the struggle against the imperialist expansionism in the world are concerned. We also agree on the need to promote cooperation among developing nations; that is, South-South cooperation, and the North-South dialogue. We also advocate the joint and individual development of the economies of Third World countries, the improvement of the standards of living, and of the levels of education, science, and technology.

[Reporter] What is your opinion of the Peruvian position regarding the foreign debt?

[PRC spokesman] Considering the overall situation, the Peruvian Government has adopted a sensible position regarding the foreign debt that is in accordance with the possibilities of the country. [end recording]

Hung Hua is in Lima for a 6-day official visit at the invitation of the Peruvian National Congress. This afternoon, he will meet Leon de Viveros, president of the Chamber of Deputies, and Guillermo Larco Cox, acting president of the Senate. According to the PRC ambassador to Peru, Huang Hua will meet President Alan Garcia at Government House tomorrow.

REPORT OUTLINES RESULTS OF CGTP NATIONAL STRIKE

PY200141 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2103 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] Lima, 19 May (EFE) -- After the 4 tense days caused by the police strike, President Alan Garcia today had to confront a national strike that the Communist labor organization decreed to protest his economic and labor policies.

These two strikes have increased the domestic instability caused by the permanent terrorist threat from the Shining Path, an armed organization which yesterday closed its 7th year of activities without marking the anniversary.

The government believes that the strike, which was called by the Communist General Confederation of Peruvian Workers (CGTP) is "unjustified." The Confederation of Peruvian Workers (CTP), which is linked with the ruling APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance], did not join the strike.

CTP Secretary General Julio Cruzado has said that the CGTP decreed "a subversive strike," explaining that it was called on the anniversary of the Shining Path, during which time attacks were expected.

Leftist Senator Valentin Pancho, who heads the CGTP, said the strike was "successful," because the results "exceeded our expectations." He charged that the power supply to the CGTP headquarters was purposefully cut off.

Meanwhile, groups of demonstrators who tried to gather in front of the CGTP headquarters in Lima were violently repressed by police. Last night police forces ended a 4-day strike concerning salary and professional demands.

Labor Minister Orestes Rodriguez has said that the CGTP strike failed because 85 percent of Peruvian workers reported to work. However, rightist and leftist opposition lawmakers joined the strike and did not report to Congress today.

In Chiclayo, an APRA stronghold 780 km north of Lima, the Civil Guard disbanded a large group of university students. In one incident some 20 km from downtown Lima, demonstrators stoned cars and blocked the main highway with trees, stones, and burning tires.

United Left (IU) congressmen, the main opposition group, also sponsored demonstrations in several Lima locations.

The strict military controls and traffic restrictions imposed in the face of the police strike remained in effect in downtown Lima, where Government House is located. Military patrols, which had been mobilized because of the police strike, today supported the police forces in the repression of demonstrators in several areas of Lima.

Public transportation, on which most workers rely to get to work, was practically paralyzed in Lima, except for the municipal enterprise, which generally provides transportation services to less than 20 percent of the Lima population.

The government ordered free transportation today during rush hour, with broad tolerance for later arrivals.

Schools remained closed for the second consecutive day, in accordance with a decree issued by the government on Sunday, when military troops were put on a state of alert to act against the police. The few Lima banks that opened provided limited services, while stores downtown and some marketplaces did not open. The city hall building remained closed "for security reasons."

According to radio reports, the stoppage was total in Huancayo, in the Andean Mountain range, and in Iquitos, the capital of the Peruvian Amazon region. Other absenteeism figures are: 90 percent in Arequipa, the second largest city; 85 percent in Puno, which is near lake Titicaca; and 80 percent in the imperial city of Cuzco.

Absenteeism was partial in Tumbes, on the Ecuadoran border, and in Trujillo, the third largest Peruvian city.

REPORTAGE ON NATIONWIDE 'TERRORIST' VIOLENCE

PY152322 Paris AFP in Spanish 1537 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] Lima, 15 May (AFP) -- Police confirmed here today that on Thursday, presumed Shining Path commandos killed a mayor and a policeman, and injured three ruling APRA leaders in two Peruvian towns.

Manuel Cipriano, mayor of the Florencia District, in Trujillo, the capital of the La Libertad Department, was shot five times after being beaten by three people, presumably Shining Path members, who also injured three APRA leaders. Among the injured is district Governor Santos Pirgo, the source said. Cipriano is the first mayor of the La Libertad Department, an APRA political stronghold, to die in an attack.

In Huanta, Ayacucho, in the southeastern Andean region, policeman Rogelio Pedreros, 21, was k.. ed on Thursday by presumed terrorists while he was in a repair shop. He was shot in the head. According to an eyewitness, a young man armed with a revolver suddenly appeared and shot the victim. The police staged a dragnet and captured some 10 suspects.

Yesterday, the Council of Ministers debated a bill that will reduce sentences, and in some cases will acquit, those who choose to abandon the armed struggle, in an effort to achieve the national pacification. The bill will soon be submitted to Congress for study and approval, a government spokesman said.

Peasant Killed

PY191457 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0353 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] Ayacucho, 18 May (EFE) -- Police sources today reported in Ayacucho that a column of presumed members of the Maoist "Shining Path" organization has killed four peasants, among them a woman, in the town of Acco, Ayacucho Department.

The incident occurred on 17 May in Acco, located 96 km from Ayacucho, and according to the sources, the peasants were members of the Acco peasant vigilantes, who oppose the subversive attacks.

In addition, it was reported that Republican Guardsmen today defused a bomb in the offices of the Supreme Court of Justice, located in downtown Ayacucho. The police also reported that two dynamite sticks exploded in Carmen Alto and San Juan Bautista districts, causing minor damage. The city was heavily patrolled today by vehicles transporting Army forces and very few pedestrians were seen on the streets.

The day marked the 7th anniversary of the terrorist activities of the "Shining Path" organization, which began its armed struggle on 18 May 1980 while the general elections, which were won by former President Fernando Belaunde Terry, were being held.

NEW GROUP VOWS TO FIGHT SHINING PATH GUERRILLAS

PY192301 Paris AFP in Spanish 2209 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] Lima, 19 May (AFP) -- It was reported today in Lima that a paramilitary organization, the self-styled Commando for the Elimination of Shining Path Guerrillas [Comando de Aniquilamiento de Senderistas], has appeared in the northeastern department of San Martin. The commando has announced that its objective is to fight the Maoist guerrillas that operate in that region of the Peruvian jungle.

The organization, which has not yet claimed any action, left leaflets in a radio station in Tarapoto, some 800 km northeast of Lima. The leaflets threaten the Shining Path guerrillas.

HOY, a pro-government newspaper, has said that this is an ultrarightist organization that has also threatened to kill journalists who promote subversion. Thus far, this is the only place in Peru where an armed group has announced it will fight the guerrillas.

The newspaper also reported that 2 days ago seven guerrillas attacked a civil guard station in Picota, 60 km from Tarapoto. No injuries were reported during the shoot-out, but police captured one of the terrorists.

The report said that prior to the attack, the mayor and other authorities of Picota received death threats from the Shining Path, who gave them 15 days to leave town.

GOVERNMENT CALLS FOR MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS 9 NOV

PY161817 Paris AFP in Spanish 0639 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] Lima, 15 May (AFP) -- The government today called for complementary municipal elections to be held on 9 November 1987 in places where elections could not be held or where elections held in November 1986 were annulled.

Elections were not held in several districts and provinces of Ayacucho Department, where the Maoist Shining Path guerrillas are focusing their activities. The same thing happened in other places either because the electoral ballots did not arrive on time or because they were canceled.

ARMY COMMANDER SAYS MILITARY SUPPORTS GOVERNMENT

PY191437 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] Army Commander in Chief Lieutenant General Carlos Berois has rejected violent and totalitarian attitudes and noted the strong democratic calling of the Armed Forces.

In a speech he delivered during an Army Day ceremony, Lt Gen Berois called on his subordinates to remain alert, guaranteeing the continued strengthening of the institutions in order to forge a future of peace and understanding.

The military ceremony was presided over by President Julio Maria Sanguinetti, Vice President Enrique Tarigo, the Cabinet, and lawmakers of the Colorado Party, the National Party, and the Civic Union Party.

FOREIGN MINISTER PROTESTS JUMP IN INTEREST RATES

PY192219 Paris AFP in Spanish 1724 GMT 18 May 87

[Text] Paysandu, 18 May (AFP) -- Uruguayan Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias, provisional secretary of the Cartagena Consensus asserted here that the increase of international interest rates threatens all foreign debt renegotiation schemes obtained by Latin American countries. He said the seriousness of the subject dictates that it will be discussed by the Consensus and that it will also be included in the agenda of the meeting to be held by the presidents of Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay on 27 May.

Iglesias stated that the Latin American countries are making an unprecedented effort within their economies to meet their foreign commitments at the expense of violent reductions in the standard of living. He said in exchange for the efforts being made, the Cartagena Group, formed by Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru, Dominican Republic, Uruguay, and Venezuela, expects those interest rates to be reduced to their previous levels.

He said however, that this has not happened and that interest rates are rising again. This, to say the least, he said, is completely unacceptable. Taking Uruguay as an example, Iglesias said that the recent increase of the interest rates, agreed upon in some parts of the world, has compelled Uruguay to transfer some $20 million abroad.

According to the foreign minister every point the interest rates rise represents to Uruguay an additional service of its foreign debt of $35 to $40 million per year. He went on the say that when one sees the difficulties facing the governments which try to balance their budgets and face social demands which are cut at all levels because there is no money, one can imagine what these blows represent.

Last weekend in closing the 36th Annual Meeting of the International Press Institute (IPI), the Cartagena Consensus provisional secretary stated that the continent's foreign debt ($380,000 million) is entering a phase of fatigue. In his address to journalists, Iglesias demanded the direct intervention of government because, he said, the debt subject is too complex to be handled just by bankers.

DE LA MADRID OPENS MAJOR WORLD CITIES CONFERENCE

PA200406 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1955 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] The president of the Republic has opened the Metropolis-87 Conference, in which representatives of 50 major world cities are participating.

[Begin reporter Juana Jaramillo recording] President Miguel de la Madrid has asserted that Mexico is nationalistic but not chauvinistic. He said it is open to the ideas and experiences of the whole world to find solutions to common problems but with the prerequisite that each country preserve its national character.

Chairing the inauguration of the Metropolis-87 Conference, the Mexican chief executive contended that the process of urbanization is indeed irreversible but it can be shaped. He said Mexico pursues a policy of slowing down large urban concentrations and promoting small- and medium-sized cities in order to achieve a more adequate distribution of the population and to make the life of rural inhabitants more pleasant.

Before delegates from 50 countries who are attending the Metropolis-87 Conference, the head of state warned that the reality of problems faced by the world because of the large population forces nations to seek each other out in order to share the experiences and show each other their successes and failures.

Manuel Camacho Solis, under secretary of urban development and ecology, noted that although Mexico City is the largest city in the world it has forged ahead amid all its difficulties. He said there is an obligation to reorganize big cities with a new, global approach, with a democratic and (?liberating) comment but also with the [word indistinct] that must go hand in hand with all actions.

Mexico City Regent Aguirre stressed that urbanization has not always been synonymous with social development. He added that in similar large cities we find the contradictions that characterize a technological process that does not always involve benefits for the minorities.

Finally, (Michel Giraud), president of the Association of Large Metropolitan Areas highly praised the Mexican Government and people for their [words indistinct] the quakes of September 1985 to rise from the tragedy, which he described as an example to all mankind. He said that 2 years after its creation the organization, which had about a dozen members at the beginning, has over 50 active and associate members worldwide. [end recording]

PAN DENIES RECEIVING U.S. AID, HELPING CONTRAS

PA192116 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 15 May 87 p 4

[Article by Ubaldo Diaz]

[Text] Yesterday, National Action Party [PAN] President Luis H Alvarez said the party does not contribute to the Nicaraguan contras, as has been stated in the United States, nor does it receive money from the United States, since PAN expenses are paid by member fees.

Alvarez said that "once again, as part of the permanent campaign the regime instigated to discredit PAN, it accuses the party of an alleged relation with the U.S. Republican Party members implicated in the Iran-contra scandal."

Alvarez said the press reports refer to events that occurred in August 1986. Despite this, it is handled as if they were a current event. The new cables are from international press agencies, and they reprint statements from U.S. newspapers.

Alvarez said at first," the PAN was slandered by being accused of receiving or asking for U.S. economic aid; now we are accused of being asked for $210,000 for the so-called Nicaraguan contras."

Alvarez said the person indicated as taking part in a conversation -- referring to Ricardo Villa Escalera -- with leaders of a U.S. group that backs the contras, has categorically stated he has never had PAN membership and he acted in his own name.

Luis H. Alvarez said in view of this, the PAN denies any involvement in these events, will investigate the possible responsibility of those mentioned, and will act accordingly.

The Chihuahua leader said further on the group that "allegedly sought financial support from PAN is part of the Hannaford Co.; the same company contracted by the Mexican Government to improve the image of the president and the PRI in the United States at a cost of $150 an hour."

Alvarez also pointed out that the Mexican news agency says it has access to sources that know of the Iran-contra scandal is NOTIMEX, owned by the Mexican Government, and is therefore loyal to the PRI.

Alvarez clarified that it is not true that the "PAN intends to receive support from the U.S. Government. It is the Mexican Government, with its official party system, created with the inspiration of Ambassador Morrow at the time, that is subordinate to the U.S. Government, to maintain an antidemocratic policy."

Alvarez said accusations against PAN, which would deserve formal legal charges, and even cancelation of its registration, are so weak that not even a serious investigation has been attempted, nor a trial to apply a sanction. Instead, the accusations grow without accepting the responsibility or the obligation by those who make them to take legal action.

Alvarez finally explained that any Mexican could see that the campaign against PAN is orchestrated by the government "to try and mar the image of the main adversary of the dominant oligarchy: the PAN."

CTM Leader on PAN Treason Charges

PA180408 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 16 May 87

[Report by Lorena Martinez Rios]

[Text] Commenting on the expulsion of Ricardo Villa Escalera from PAN [National Action Party], Fidel Velasquez, leader of the Confederation of Mexican Workers [CTM], has said: There are no traitors of the fatherland in the PAN:

[Begin Velasquez recording] Escalera was not the only one; they were all involved. At least in the specific case of Chihuahua, they requested U.S. help to win. [end recording]

He said that should charges of PAN treason be confirmed, the party's status could be canceled. However, Velasquez said the CTM is not asking for nor does it desire that cancelation.

PST DEMANDS OUSTER OF PARTY PRESIDENT

FL191643 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0302 GMT 18 May 87

[Text] Mexico City, 17 May (NOTIMEX) -- The chairmen of 22 state committees of the opposition Socialist Workers Party (PST) have demanded the expulsion of Rafael Aguilar Talamantes as PST President for illegal conduct in accepting reports that the party had had dealings with the White House to help the Nicaraguan contras.

The PST members held a second extraordinary meeting at the doors of the Federal Electoral commission during which they confirmed that they will prove, with evidence, that their leader committed irregularities detrimental to the organization.

They asserted that the PST has lost credibility due to this situation in a pre-electoral year, which damages the image of the party and its members. They even pointed out that Aguilar Talamantes should no longer be president because his term ended a year ago according to party regulations.

NICARAGUA'S RAMIREZ MEETS PRESS, LEAVES FOR MANAGUA

FL181053 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0444 GMT 18 May 87

[Text] Mexico City, 17 May (NOTIMEX) -- Nicaraguan Vice President Sergio Ramirez Mercado has stated that Nicaragua will insist that any Central American peace agreement or negotiation take place within the framework of the Contadora Group.

Ramirez Mercado, who was in Mexico on a private 7-day visit during which he met with President Miguel de la Madrid, was interviewed at the Mexico City airport shortly before leaving for Managua. He added that the Sandinist government will try to make the agreements that might arise from the forthcoming Esquipulas meeting respond to the efforts undertaken by the Contadoras.

Ramirez Mercado also stressed that the Nicaraguan people have full confidence in Mexico, since President de la Madrid has defended the country's self-determination. We believe there is a retaining wall that begins in Mexico which will stop American aggression against my country, he stressed.

He pointed out that U.S. intention right now is to die with its boots on. However, he asserted that despite existing conditions, there are hopes for a peaceful solution that will respect the countries involved in the regional conflict.

Lastly, he denied there is any chance at this time of negotiating with the Nicaraguan contras, but declared that there could be a dialogue if they gave up their arms.

Ramirez Mercado met this Sunday with Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda, with whom he exchanged views on the meeting in Esquipulas, Guatemala, slated for 25 and 26 June.

JOURNALIST HOSTS PART II OF PROGRAM ON NICARAGUA

PA192347 [Editorial Report] Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish at 0330 GMT on 19 May broadcasts its regular 2-hour "Special Edition" program hosted by journalist Mayin Correa with guests Panamanian legislator Arturo Vallarino, journalist Homero Londono, UNO [Nicaraguan Opposition Unity] representative Alvaro Altamirano, and Dr Fernando Nunez Fabrega, a businessman. Today's program features the second of a two-part special report entitled: "Inside Nicaragua."

Correa opens the program by summarizing the same opening film report presented in the first part of the "Inside Nicaragua" special report broadcast on 12 May. Correa then summarizes the content of today's report which includes an interview with Violeta de Chamorro, president of the board of directors of the Nicaraguan opposition paper LA PRENSA, a brief interview with Enrique Bolano, president of the Nicaraguan Higher Council of Private Enterprise [COSEP], and an interview with Msgr Miguel Obando y Bravo, in addition to the comments made by the program's guests.

A brief interview with Violeta de Chamorro follows immediately. Chamorro states that almost a year ago the Nicaraguan Government decided to close the newspaper LA PRENSA. She adds that a few weeks ago, the newspaper team printed a poster containing sayings of her late husband Pedro Joaquin Chamorro. She says she ordered the printing of the poster to send it to the delegates of the IPU conference, which was being held in Nicaragua at the time. The camera moves away from Mrs Chamorro and shows the poster headline that reads: "Without Freedom of Press, There is No Freedom." Mrs Chamorro adds that in addition to the poster, which was confiscated by the Nicaraguan Government, she planned to send a document that the LA PRENSA board of directors presented at the OAS regarding the closing of the paper, and a communique sent by the Nicaraguan Government to the LA PRENSA board of directors ordering them to pay the employees for the 306 days the paper has remained closed. Mrs Chamorro adds: "With this measure they want us to go bankrupt, but we will not go bankrupt. We will sell the last chair we own, but our paper will remain here for as long as they let us...if LA PRENSA disappears it will be because this Marxist-Leninist dictatorship made it disappear."

The report then presents a brief interview with FELAP [Latin American Journalist Federation] Vice President Ignacio Torres, who also comments on the freedom of the press in Nicaragua. He states that there is no freedom of the press in Nicaragua.

The program continues with comments by the four guests regarding their own impressions about the freedom of press in Nicaragua.

After the various comments, Correa introduces a brief interview with COSEP President Enrique Bolano.

Bolanos says there is no minimum salary in Nicaragua and explains the current salary rates and their relation to the cost of living. Asked about the role of the businessmen and employers in the system, Bolanos says the state has turned them into simple servants. About the country's production, he says there are no raw materials, no spare parts. As for the foreign debt, he says it is about $6 billion plus a "hidden" debt. Including this, the debt would amount to about $7 billon. He compares Nicaragua's situation to that of Mexico and adds that Nicaragua owes more than 35 years worth of the country's total yearly exports, while Mexico owes only 5 years worth. He also asked Panamanians to take care lest this very same situation occurs in Panama.

Further on during the program, Correa introduces Msgr Miguel Obando y Bravo, who describes the popular church as one very close to the Sandinists and formed by some who believe it is necessary to enter into an alliance with the Marxists to free the people. He also says the rank and file in the church have no strength. There are very few Nicaraguan priests, he said. He said he has been praying for the unity of the church. Asked whether many of the churches in his parishes have been closed, Msgr Obando answered that the parishes have continued to operate, even if with very few priests. On the number of priests and bishops expelled, Msgr Obando answered that parishes have continued to operate, even if with very few priests. On the number of priests and bishops expelled, Msgr Obando said about 18 priests and a bishop, Msgr Pablo Antonio Vega, have been expelled because of remarks they made that displeased the regime's officials. Regarding disagreements between the church and state in Nicaragua, he said problems should be worked out and that this is why the church has designated two prelates; Msgr Bosco Vivas and Msgr Carlos Santi, to talk with government officials. The bishops have insisted that, to create the proper climate for a dialogue, the expelled priests should be allowed to return and Radio Catolica should be reopened. The church published a bulletin which was confiscated as soon as it appeared. As for "renegade" priests D'Escoto and Cardenal, he says he disagrees with their views because the government positions they hold should be held by laymen, according to the Holy See.

GENERAL NORIEGA LEAVES ON VISIT TO JAPAN

PA060035 Panama City EXTRA in Spanish 5 May 87 p 6

[From the "People and Events" Column]

[Text] General MAN [Manuel Antonio Noriega] left for Japan last weekend. According to sources close to the military forces, he might even visit Beijing.

BELIZE

SWAPO'S ANGULA ARRIVES FOR ANTIAPARTHEID RALLY

FL121807 Bridgetown CANA in English 1719 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Belmopan, Belize, May 12, CANA -- The chief representative at the United Nations for the South West Africa People's Organization of Namibia (SWAPO), Helmut Angula, is in Belize on an official visit.

Angula, who arrived yesterday for a three-day visit, will meet Prime Minister Manuel Esquivel and other government officials.

The SWAPO representative will participate in a number of abolish apartheid rallies here as part of a programme for African liberation week.

The prime minister's office has launched a drive, at the invitation of the Commonwealth Secretariat, for contributions to the International Defence Aid Fund for southern Africa.

SWAPO is internationally recognised as the diplomatic voice of the people of Namibia in Africa.

The organization is currently engaged in the struggle in South Africa to liberate Namibia, which continues to be occupied by the South African Government, in violation of a United Nations resolution condemning this occupation.

CDB REPORTS ON COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC PERFORMANCES

FL112001 Bridgetown CANA in English 1821 GMT 10 May 87

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, May 10, CANA -- The economy of Belize grew by about 2.3 per cent during 1986, compared with 1.1 per cent per annum in 1983-85, in spite of tight monetary/demand management policies that were being pursued since 1985. Concurrently, the cycle of major projects -- livestock development, road rehabilitation and the water and sewerage project -- went into its final stages.

The vital statistics of the country's economic performance are contained in the 1986 annual report of the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB).

Sugar production declined by 8.6 per cent to 93,253 long tons in 1985/86, despite improvements in the rate of extraction, while the volume of sugar exported fell by 5.5 per cent. However, the industry was thus able to contribute to a 9.6 per cent increase in total domestic exports, which rose to 56.1 million during January-September 1986, compared with 51.2 million during the corresponding period of 1985.

Production of citrus concentrate rose by 6.8 per cent to 1.1 million gallons, in response to rising prices in 1985 and the in-filling of old fields under the citrus rehabilitation programme. However, average prices on the U.S. market fell from 11.1 dollars/gallon of concentrate in the first quarter of 1985 to 8 dollars/gallon in the first quarter of 1986, because of over-supply by Latin American producers.

In spite of poor weather conditions in the south of the country during late 1985, banana output rose under the impetus of better husbandry and higher prices, induced by appreciation of the pound sterling against the U.S. dollar. Banana exports increased by 11.4 per cent from 10,163 long tons in 1985 to 11,325 long tons in 1986. Privatization of the industry in 1985 also stimulated production. Output of cocoa increased as a result of the commitment by a conglomerate to purchase all the cocoa farmers could produce, though not a guaranteed price. Livestock production and landings of shrimp, conch and fish are estimated to have improved slightly.

In the manufacturing sector, the volume of garments produced and exported increased by 20.6 per cent during January-September. Flour milling recommenced in Belize City and a milk processing plant started operations in San Ignacio. During 1986, the Belize Export and Investment Promotion Unit (BEIPU) finalized plans for hiring an industry/tourism promotion officer and an agricultural promotion officer, and received the consultant's report recommending the creation of a free zone at Santa Elena, close to the Mexican border. BEIPU also secured the services of an overseas trade correspondence in U.S. and Europe, and this has already been instrumental in providing market intelligence and finding markets for a few locally manufactured items.

Annual inflation of 3.3 per cent was underscored by the adoption in July 1986 of the Caricom Common External Tariff which resulted in increases of up to 15 percent in the landed cost of 83 categories of imports from outside Caricom. These increases were partly offset by the fall in the price of oil.

Central government current account deficit amounted to approximately 1.5 million dollars, or 3.3 per cent of recurrent revenue in fiscal year 1985/86. In spite of several new revenue measures, a deficit of 4 million dollars is expected for 1986/87, because extraordinary financing from the issuance of citizenship bonds is well below projections.

This suggests the need to tighten expenditure control. The overall deficit of the consolidated public sector fell slightly by 0.2 million dollars to 6.9 million -- primarily because of increased savings by the Social Security Board and the public enterprises. These savings are expected to continue into 1986/87 but it is not clear whether they will be sufficient to offset the deterioration in the financial performance of central government.

On balance, the medium-term prospects for the economy are fair. Production of bananas and citrus concentrate should fare well since rehabilitation projects in both subsectors have recently been completed.

The upward trend in banana prices will also stimulate production. Citrus prices are expected to recover as a result of intensive lobbying by Belize and other producers who were adversely affected by this year's flooding of the market by Latin American producers. However, the recent reduction in the U.S. sugar quota for Belize and uncertainty about the reopening of the Libertad Factory for ethanol production, do not augur well for the sugar industry in the medium term.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHED WITH SDAR

FL190223 Belize City Domestic Service in Spanish 0120 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] Belize has established diplomatic relations with the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR]. General Governor Dr Minita Gordon today received the credentials of the first Saharan ambassador to Belize, Mr (Habib Buiyer). The ceremony was held in the Belizean capital, Belmopan.

Upon accepting the credentials of Mr (Buiyer), the governor general expressed the hope that these relations will result in greater cooperation between Belize and the SDAR. Belize and the SDAR established formal relations in November 1985.

Also this morning, Mr (Buiyer) held talks with the prime minister, the right Honorable Manuel Esquivel, and Foreign Minister Mr Dean Barrow.

COSTA RICA

EXPORTS MINISTER CRITICIZES U.S. TRADE POLICY

PA191533 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] According to remarks made by Exports Minister Muny Figueres, the U.S. attitude toward Costa Rican exporters has been discouraging. Figueres made these remarks after the first round of talks with U.S. Government officials to find a solution to the market for shirts exported to the United States, which recently have been subject to many restrictions.

Regarding the export of shirts to the United States, Costa Rica has been facing many obstacles, and the opportunities have been limited despite the agreements established by the Caribbean Basin Plan. The opportunities to show that Costa Rica is a capable, extraordinary, and different country that deserves very special treatment have been restricted, Minister Figueres said. She added that Costa Rica deserves such special treatment from the United States because of its history, idiosyncrasy, democratic tradition, and geopolitical position.

This year, precandidates will be announced in the United States. Therefore, the opening of U.S. markets for foreign products, particularly from Central America, is restricted because of the high level of protectionism of U.S. industrialists, which is demanded by the entrepreneurial organizations and by the unions; the politicians must respond to this issue.

Minister Figueres noted there is much expectation about who will best defend the internal interests of each state.

EL SALVADOR

FOREIGN MINISTER ADVOCATES 'MINI-MARSHALL' PLAN

PA191440 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1100 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] Salvadoran Foreign Minister Ricardo Acevedo Peralta stated that the country's democratic process will not last long unless a mini-Marshall Plan is launched to promote social and economic development.

The foreign minister said that unless there is a development plan, peace and democracy will not be stabilized no matter how many Contadora documents and Arias plans are signed. During a news conference, Foreign Minister Acevedo Peralta announced the results of his recent tour through Europe. He referred to the issue of peace in Central America, and stated that the basic problem of the area is an economic problem.

Acevedo Peralta feels that a mini-Marshall Plan, similar to the plan the United States carried out in Europe following World War II, would be important for Central America, and particularly for El Salvador. According to the Salvadoran foreign minister, this mini-Marshall Plan should be carried out as a crusade in which the countries of Europe, Asia -- the Republic of China, South Korea, and Japan -- and the United States would carry out economic projects in Central America.

The Europeans are expecting too much from the Napoleon Duarte government, and they recognize the achievements made in the process of democracy and the respect for human rights, Acevedo Peralta stated while he explained the achievements of last week's visit to Great Britain and Italy. However, the foreign minister said the Europeans have the same doubts we have: Does our economic situation allow us to strengthen and maintain the democratic process? Likewise, Acevedo Peralta confirmed that Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador have given evidence -- not only with words, but also with facts -- of their political willingness to achieve peace and development in Central America.

We hope that through its actions, Nicaragua will also give evidence of this willingness to achieve peace, he said. The Salvadoran foreign minister added that the political purpose of his trip to Europe was also to report to those governments on the democratic progress made in El Salvador. He pointed out that a protocol of economic assistance signed last month with Italy was also ratified. According to Acevedo Peralta, the ratification of this document will launch Italian assistance for the reconstruction of San Salvador, devastated by the 10 October earthquake. The assistance consists of a loan for $60 million that does not have to be repaid. It also covers $40 million in soft loans payable in 20 years, $8 million for the construction of low-cost housing, and $25 million that does not have to be repaid that will be invested in agroindustry.

The foreign minister also said in late June President Duarte will visit Italy and the FRG to ratify the ties of friendship and cooperation of those nations with El Salvador.

TWO CADETS INVOLVED IN COLONEL'S DEATH

PA200319 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2346 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] San Salvador, 19 May (ACAN-EFE) -- It was officially reported in this capital today that two officers are involved in the murder of Colonel Jose Guillermo Fuentes Ayala in San Salvador on Sunday.

Coprefa has reported that after the murder of Fuentes Ayala, who was in a restaurant with his family, Second Lieutenant Jose Garcilazo Diaz and Alvaro Atilio Moreno Hernandez, Salvadoran Air Force cadets were detained.

After they were questioned several times and after ballistic and paraffin tests were conducted, it was confirmed that Garcilazo Diaz is guilty of the death of of Fuentes Ayala, according to a Coprefa bulletin released this afternoon in San Salvador.

The murdered officer, second in command of the Salvadoran Army's Artillery Brigade, was shot eight times. The army has reported that the two officers charged with the crime will be tried by common courts.

MAYORS URGE DUARTE TO NEGOTIATE RELEASE

PA191333 Paris AFP in Spanish 2355 GMT 18 May 87

[Text] San Salvador, 18 May (AFP) -- Two Salvadoran mayors, who have been in the hands of the guerrillas for the past few weeks, today urged Salvadoran President Napoleon Duarte to negotiate their release, local radio stations reported.

In recorded cassettes, which were distributed to the radio stations, Mayors Gonzalo Garcia and Victoriano Martinez urged Duarte and the government's Army to end their captivity. They recalled similar incidents that occurred in previous years, including one involving Ines Duarte, daughter of the president, which took place in October 1985.

Garcia, mayor of San Cayetano Istepeque, in the central Department of San Vicente, was kidnapped by the FMLN on 22 March; while Martinez, mayor of Mercedes La Ceiba, in the central Department of La Paz, has been hostage since 9 April. Both officials, who are members of the ruling Christian Democratic Party, said "we have been treated well, but we need to rejoin our relatives as soon as possible." They also urged other mayors in the country to express solidarity for their plight. They reminded Duarte that if the party placed them in those posts, he is obliged to negotiate their release.

DEFENSE MINISTER REPROACHES DEMONSTRATORS

PA181306 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0200 GMT 16 May 87

[Report by Alfredo Villarreal]

[Text] In view of the constant provocations by the students of the National University, security forces might (?act) directly, Defense Minister General Carlos Eugenio Vides Casanova said today.

Vides Casanova made that statement during the inauguration of the Palormo neighborhood, where military [words indistinct] will live. Vides Casanova said that, fortunately, the actions carried out by university students against the members of the Army have been handled with calmness by the armed institution, which has prevented any regrettable incidents. Vides Casanova referred to yesterday's confrontation in San Salvador -- not violent, but still dangerous -- between university students and soldiers.

[Begin Vides Casanova recording] Despite the provocations -- which you have seen on television -- the Armed Forces have remained calm. It is not always easy to remain calm, because we never know how a person will react to such provocations. I believe that instead of the question you have asked me, it would be better if the media made the unions and university students realize they are not making good use of the liberties we have in a democracy. Although this time officers and soldiers have patiently endured the insults, maybe tomorrow others will not have the same patience, and the Armed Forces and the country will be forced to act. Logically, they would not have the same freedom to express their ideas as today. [end recording]

Vides Casanova also condemned the incidents between workers and employers at the [name indistinct] enterprise, as well as Friday's occupation of the Supreme Court of Justice by the federation of mothers.

[Begin Vides Casanova recording] If the demonstration had been held outside the Supreme Court of Justice, without damaging the building or (?painting them), they would be properly exerting their rights. I believe that it is not acceptable for anyone who wants a favorable decision from the Supreme Court of Justice to threaten the magistrates or (?insult) them. It is up to them; tomorrow they can tell me [words indistinct] and we will not allow anyone to go in. [end recording]

Gen Vides Casanova made that statement when, accompanied by ranking military officers, he attended the official inauguration of the Palormo military residential area. This area has 96 houses costing a total of 20 million colons. The neighborhood will have its own school. This housing project was built with funds provided by the Armed Forces Social Welfare Institute, IPSFA.

ELECTRIC COMPANY PRESIDENT ON ENERGY RATIONING

PA161428 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 2100 GMT 15 May 87

[Excerpts] The Salvadoran energy crisis could be the most serious in Central America and could partially paralyze a country which has to confront a domestic war. This statement was made by the president of the state electricity company, General Jaime Abdul Gutierrez, president of the Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission, CEL, during his testimony before the Legislative Assembly. [passage omitted]

In April, the government established a system of energy rationing by zones, from 2 to 5 hours daily, depending on the region. The CEL president explained that so far the rationing has included about 10 percent of the total, and this measure has helped so that the service has not been reduced by 40 percent. However, if during the last week in May it does not rain enough, or if 1 million colons is not available daily to finance the use of diesel, the rationing could increase.

According to the technical explanations given by Gen Abdul, the main problem was the 1986 drought, which reduced the water level behind the most important dams of the country -- five in all, with four electric generating plants. [passage omitted]

GUATEMALA

URNG BLAMES 'INCREASE IN THE WAR' ON U.S. PRESENCE

PA192020 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1731 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] Guatemala City, 19 May (ACAN-EFE) -- The Guatemalan guerrillas today announced an "increase in the war" because of the U.S. military intervention in that Central American country.

In a bulletin issued today, the URNG, the top Guatemalan rebel organization, reported the U.S. intervention in the antiguerrilla struggle and expressed its "concern" over the participation of U.S. Army units in counterinsurgency actions in this country. The note added that the U.S. support for the Guatemalan Army was "initially" shown through the presence of "a squadron of Chinook (CH-47) helicopters." This squadron, which is temporarily based in Palmerola (Honduras), carried out actions early in May in Peten Department, in the northern part of the country, and Quiche Department in northwestern Guatemala. On that occasion, Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo said the U.S. helicopters were in the country (on 2, 3, and 4 May) transporting Guatemalan "recruits" to the areas of conflict, and that they served "for the training of our pilots."

Nevertheless, the URNG believes the U.S. Government's support for the Guatemalan Army's counterinsurgency operations "signifies an escalation of the war." The rebel organization stressed that "the U.S. Government's logistical support for the Guatemalan Army forms part of the activities in support of the Nicaraguan counterrevolution and of the Salvadoran counterinsurgency army." The URNG described the action as an "escalation of the U.S. intervention in Central America."

U.S. Pentagon spokesman Marvin Braman recently said in Washington that President Cerezo requested the help of the U.S. aircraft "to combat the guerrillas." The Guatemalan president described the participation of the Chinook helicopters, which provide logistical support to the U.S. troops in Honduras, as "an all but isolated incident."

The URNG noted "that the participation of U.S. helicopters to support operations aimed at increasing the war against the people is very serious for Guatemala." The URNG told President Cerezo that "the actions and attitudes of the government must be consistent with the policy of active neutrality." It also issues a call for the people to oppose "foreign intervention" in Guatemala.

The Guatemalan president, who took office on 14 January 1986 after 20 years of military dictatorships, believes the operations by the U.S. aircraft "do not distort the policy of active neutrality, because this is a domestic matter."

Clashes between the guerrillas and government troops have periodically taken place in Peten, Quiche, and Solola in the high plateau, and also in the southwestern Department of San Marcos, on the border with Mexico.

ORPA ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON MILITARY ACTIVITIES

PA190340 Guatemala City PRESNA LIBRE in Spanish 17 May 87 p 8

[Text] The Commander Javier Tambriz guerrilla front of the ORPA [Revolutionary Organization of the People in Arms] has surreptitiously delivered a communique to this newspaper to report the military operations which were carried out in Solola and Suchitepequez Departments from 7-19 April.

The rebels report that a battalion of paratroopers was annihilated and several ambushes were carried out against Army forces. The communique adds: "Likewise, a guerrilla commando infiltrated the enemy ranks and discovered an advanced command post on the outskirts of Santiago Atitlan. Military officers inside a special tent were seen analyzing plans to coordinate and direct operations around a volcano."

The communique continues: "An Army convoy was ambushed on Easter Sunday. The convoy was composed of two jeeps equipped with weapons, one truck, and one panel truck, which were moving along the road between Santiago Atitlan and San Lucas Toliman, near the village of Cerro de Oro." The rebels state that tilled farmlands and other areas in the high plateau have been indiscriminately bombed.

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITY IN AREA CRITICIZED

PA190407 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 19 May 87

[Editorial: "They Want To Turn Us Into Another Middle East"]

[Text] It is horrifying to confirm the number and variety of paws intervening in Central America -- our divided and convulsive big fatherland -- that has become the booty of the most diverse foreign interests.

The investigations surrounding the Iran-contra scandal have revealed other things besides the warmongering, clandestine, or declared actions. For example, it is known that the Sultan of Brunei, a despot of a far-away feudal enclave north of Borneo which is rich in petroleum, contributed several million dollars for the mercenaries as did the King of Saudi Arabia. We must not forget that Israel participated in a number of maneuvers to further promote war against our impoverished peoples.

All these millions of dollars have brought bloodshed, death, and corruption to the isthmus. On the other side, the USSR also does its share by channelling arms and heavy aid to Nicaragua, which is spending resources to face the pursuit it is being subjected to.

As if this were not enough, there are plans to sell to Honduras 12 modern combat planes costing $75 million. Honduras, one of the most backward and poor countries in the world, is investing astronomical sums in deadly weapons.

In this regard, Democratic Representative Sam Gejdenson presented a resolution to block the sale of those planes. He said such a sale would dangerously increase the amount of military materiel in Central America. The congressman said: That goes against U.S. interests. It would turn Central America into another Middle East. These small nations are using up their limited resources to arm themselves to the teeth.

HONDURAS

INTERVIEW WITH GENERAL REGALADO HERNANDEZ

PA161607 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 14 May 87

[Interview with General Humberto Regalado Hernandez, commander of the Armed Forces, by unidentified reporter; no place given -- live]

[Text] [Reporter] Good Morning, General

[Regalado Hernandez] Good morning, sir, good morning HRN [Voz de Honduras Network], national audience.

[Reporter] General, we are very much interested... [changes thought] there have been various reports saying that Honduras has to pay $75 million or 150 million lempiras for 12 F-5E planes. What can you tell the Honduran people about this?

[Regalado Hernandez] This is a very strange [words indistinct] because there have been clear statements by some officials from the U.S. Embassy as well as by the ambassador himself. Therefore, I believe that propaganda coming out of the Nicaraguan Embassy through some communication media that are cooperating and supporting them in a very sensitive subject as in national security. [sentence as heard]

We, in our permanent objective of modernizing the institution, and in permanent transition, have been renewing our equipment. When the Mauser rifle was obsolete, we acquired the M-1, and then we got FAL rifles. Now that problems have appeared with the FAL rifles, we have adopted the M-16 as the service weapon for soldiers.

Regarding the planes, you know that our planes are 11 years old. We have been discussing replacing the Super Mystere for the past 2 years; these planes are almost at the end of their useful lives. We have begun talks -- not today, but for the past 2 or 3 years -- to replace this plane as we have replaced the rifles I just mentioned.

In this sense, please let me ... [changes thought] there are comments saying that we are going to pay -- this is a way to disappoint and misinform people. We are not going to pay anything. As we have paid for replacing the rifles and some artillery pieces, the United States allocates a sum of money to us, which does not mean any sacrifice of the economic aid to the government. In the existing agreements we have, there is an allowance for military aid, from which we are getting some savings from those same MAP [Military Assistance Program] aid funds in the plane package. This will not cost a penny to the Honduran people.

The interesting point here is that people who have reacted to this are, actually, the communists and the Nicaraguans, who have the least interest in the modernization of our [Armed Forces].

The truth is that the plane, as I have told you, is not costing us a penny. We are replacing an old plane, and the replacement is not a sophisticated plane. There are reports about a sophisticated plane -- even shoes are sophisticated when they see a fancy tassel on them.

This is not a sophisticated plane; it is more or less a transition, the same as when we went from the corsario to the A-37 and the Super Mystere. This is the following transition step, from the Super Mystere to the F-5. It is the same generation. Therefore, I want to clarify to the Honduran people, very frankly, that the Honduran Government is not spending a penny and is not sacrificing the country's economy. On the contrary, our policy is to always support and make the economic [words indistinct] to the government so that its development plans can be implemented. I do want to clarify this to the Honduran people because there are some people who with evil intentions are against this. I want to tell you that this plane is not a vehicle we are getting to fly around with our girlfriends. This is for our national security; it means protection for the Honduran citizenship. Therefore, in this regard, people should be supporting us. We have this constitutional duty to defend the territory and sovereignty of the country. It is basically our responsibility, but as we say in our slogan: In the Defense of Honduras (?all of us are) the Armed Forces.

[Reporter] General, could you tell us why some of the media and some congressmen in the United States are trying to ban the acquisition by Honduras of this plane because this could become an excuse for Nicaragua to get the MiG 21?

[Regalado Hernandez] [Words indistinct] I believe the truth is that in the internal policy and in the internal political and partisan battle in the United States, they do not mind at all running over the Central American countries. Last night there was a news item reporting that in the United States, the Central American region is regarded as one area. Therefore, the internal situation in Nicaragua and in other countries is the same situation as in Honduras. A friend of mine who recently returned from the United States said he was very surprised that here in Honduras you can move around calmly; however, this is not how the situation is understood in the United States. There are some senators who are playing the Nicaraguan game.

I do not believe a political party in the United States which is supporting a communist government will get more votes. I honestly do not believe that. Thus, there are people... [changes thought] you are aware that Nicaragua has good propaganda instruments in Washington, they even have a publishing house to publish a magazine, they have good lobbying [preceding word in English].

I believe we are lacking information. The few ambassadors, senators, and congressmen who have come to visit the Honduran Government have gotten a clear view of the situation. However, perhaps still... [changes thought] a professional politician can give his opinion about these stratagems taking place inside those parties. Honestly, I see everything from the national security point of view.

I remember that sometime ago there were some examples of this in which a Honduran citizen was declared as a perpetrator of a crime against the country's security just because he said that Alvarez Martinez was preparing the Honduran Army for a war against Nicaragua.

At this time, some of the media are lending themselves to attacking state security. I believe these are very serious matters which should not be questioned without good reason. We are at the disposition of the media truly interested in knowing something about national security so that they know about the scope of responsibilities regarding information, particularly sensitive information. This is not just against the Armed Forces, rather, it is against all Hondurans.

[Reporter] General, there are two important points we would like to discuss with you through HRN. Now that it has been clearly explained that Honduras will not have to pay one cent to get those F-5E planes, we would like to know: One, there are reports about the increasing crime wave, particularly the attacks in the northern zone of the country, last Wednesday. Thus far, the Human Rights Commission has made no statements regarding the death of innocent people during that attack [words indistinct]. Do you have any comments?

[Regalado Hernandez] Actually, I have heard no statements from the Human Rights Commission. I dare to think when they do issue a statement it will be against...[changes thought] it will be framed in a specific line. We are very sad to see that Hondurans, just because they are wearing a uniform, are not regarded as Hondurans. We are part of the people and come from the humble sectors of this country. I believe it is a duty of the Human Rights [Commission] to express its position about these attacks. Although it is true these killings are of a political nature, it is also true that it is not fair that outstanding people such as this young man recently killed, who was former president of the San Pedro Sula Junior Chamber of Commerce, become the victims of circumstances. I believe that in some way the Human Rights Commission's statements strengthen the terrorist groups and encourage them to perpetrate these criminal actions.

[Reporter] We would like to refer to another topic: the national situation which resulted from some peasants' statements. You met yesterday with leaders of the country's peasant organizations. What did you talk about, General?

[Regalado Hernandez] Well, to be honest, it is interesting to hear what the two sides have to state. We are not experts in agrarian reform laws, so I asked the INA [National Agrarian Institue] executive director to accompany me. We had an interesting exchange of views.

The local communists's strategy includes efforts to create national unrest. I think they might make this mistake and try to break our country's laws. I believe we have good laws and should abide by them. However, they [the peasants] are willing to participate in a dialogue, and I believe the meeting is still underway. I told them I was available to act as their liaison with the president and present some of their proposals to the president. We are prepared to contribute with a grain of sand so justice is enforced and peace may prevail in Honduras.

[Reporter] Any message to your listeners through HRN, General?

[Regalado Hernandez] Well, journalists' day is coming up and I want to tell you we will happily participate in the celebrations. I would like to give my message of congratulations in advance because you are also considered the soldiers of democracy. I think all Hondurans can join efforts and seek a resolution to all our problems. We must orient the Honduran people correctly instead of trying to misguide them. We must try to counter those who criticize our institutions. If we all join efforts we will achieve our goals and develop our nation.

MINISTRY DENIES REPORT ON ARRESTED NICARAGUANS

PA191817 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 19 May 87 p 9

[Text] The Honduran Foreign Ministry Press and Information Directorate yesterday denied erroneous information transmitted by ANN regarding some Nicaraguans who were arrested in Honduras.

An ANN report dated 14 May stated that 12 Nicaraguans of the Peace and Autonomy Commission of the Coco River, who had been arrested, reported they had been tortured and threatened with death in Honduras.

Upon their delivery to the Nicaraguan consul in Tegucigalpa, those Nicaraguans, who were arrested for sailing in Honduran waters on the Coco River, told the Honduran press they had been treated well.

One of the Nicaraguans arrested was a pregnant woman, who was released before the others for humanitarian reasons.

According to the ANN dispatch, a march will be carried out along the Coco River to demand that the Honduran Government allow free navigation of Nicaraguans. The dispatch added that the Sandinist Foreign Ministry was already in contact with the Honduran Government to prevent any kind of incidents during the march.

The Honduran Foreign Ministry has not received any information regarding the march.

Nicaraguans are free to navigate on the Coco River whenever they want to, as long as they remain on the Nicaraguan side and do not enter Honduran territorial waters which serve as a border line between the two countries in the area of La Mosquitia.

NICARAGUAN LIBERAL PARTY MEMBERS VISIT AZCONA

PA192240 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 19 May 87 p 30

[Text] A delegation of the Constitutionalist Liberal Party of Nicaragua [PLC] met yesterday with Honduran President Jose Azcona Hoyo and stated to the press that they do not know if the contras have been in Honduras.

Jose Ernesto Somarriba, adviser of the PLC said they visited President Jose Azcona Hoyo to voice their appreciation for his stand and the way he is ruling the country.

The delegation is comprised of three people, but the other two did not disclose their identities, although they voiced their support for a political solution in Nicaragua and their opposition to the armed struggle.

The Nicaraguans, who do not support the Sandinist commanders, met with Azcona Hoyo for over 1 hour.

In spite of not knowing whether the rebels have been operating in Honduran territory, Jose Ernesto Somarriba said "they consider the contras an armed group that is struggling for the liberation of the Nicaraguan people.

"We support the Reagan administrations' decision of continuing to support the Nicaraguan people," Somarriba emphasized.

The PLC received over 700,000 votes in the last elections and is therefore the number two party, which is why it is persecuted and pressured by the Sandinist regime, it was said.

When referring to the Arias plan, the adviser of the PLC said they expect it will yield good results, but he recommended it was best to wait for the results of the summit to be held in Esquipulas, Guatemala.

NICARAGUA

LABOR LEADERS DELIVER MESSAGE ON 'DICTATORSHIP'

PA090300 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 2 May 87 p 7

[Text] On the occasion of International Labor Day, 1 May, a group of Nicaraguan labor leaders who are members of the Coordinating Board for the Unification of Nicaraguan Democratic Workers [Coordinadora de Unificacion Sindical de Trabajadores Democraticos Nicaraguenses] (CUSTRADEN) visited LA REPUBLICA to deliver a message addressed to the international community, in which they "protest and repudiate the Marxist-Leninist dictatorship of a Stalinist line currently holding power in Nicaragua".

The union leaders, who claim they represent Nicaraguan workers and exiles, said their country "is living the days preceding an inevitable insurrection," because "hunger, misery, persecution, horror, and death have surpassed the levels of patience and resistance of people who love freedom."

In addition, they said "the workers and peasants have exchanged their working tools for the liberating rifle" and "the workers carry on their shoulders the burden of the struggle against the dictatorship."

They added that they have already begun "a great international offensive" aimed at obtaining "the necessary moral, political, and economic support for their struggle to achieve Nicaragua's liberation and democratization."

CONTRAS AMBUSH VEHICLE, 'MURDER' UPE DIRECTOR

PA160420 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 14 May 87 p 8

[Article by Zamora-Vargas]

[Text] Esteli -- On Tuesday, 12 May, at 2300 hours, about 15 counterrevolutionaries ambushed a civilian station wagon owned by MIDINRA [Ministry of Agricultural-livestock Development and Agrarian Reform], which the "Filemon Rivera" State Production Unit (UPE) used, murdered the UPE director, Jose Ramon Cardoza, and wounded the driver.

The ambush took place at kilometer 173 of the Inter-American Highway, 7 km south of Condega, at the location known as Valle de Piedra Larga. After the criminal act, the mercenaries blew up two electrical and telegraph poles in the same sector.

EPS and Interior Ministry (MINT) public relations in the 1st Region, stated that the driver of the station wagon, Jose Maria Mendoza, is recovering at the "Alejandro Davila Bolanos" hospital in Esteli. The day of the murder, Jose Ramon Cardoza had visited Condega to inspect the location of the Mini Agricultural-Livestock Fair where his UPE will participate. His body was taken in the morning to the offices of the enterprise in Esteli. Yesterday his remains were taken to Palacaguina and delivered to his relatives.

Last night the Standing Accusations Committee of the Agricultural and Livestock sector, presided over by Eddy Grijalva, sent a letter to U.S. Ambassador Harry Bergold, blaming the CIA-financed mercenaries of numerous atrocities in Nicaraguan rural areas. They stated that while the Reagan administration has become deaf and blind to the Nicaraguan clamor for peace, it has unleased a wave of crimes, "not caring that most of the time those who die or are mutilated are peasants, workers, volunteers, old men, women, children, technicians, and professionals."

FDN CLAIMS TO SURROUND 500 SANDINISTS IN JINOTEGA

PA191618 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1526 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 19 May (ACAN-EFE) -- The rebel FDN today reported that it has surrounded 500 Sandinist soldiers in the mountains of Jinotega Department near the border with Honduras.

According to the clandestine Radio 15 September, Nicaraguan Army troops are pinned down between the Bocay and Amaka Rivers, in a position that is accessible only by helicopter because the only entrance by land is controlled by the rebels. The same source said the weather conditions are bad, the Sandinist troops have not been supplied with ammunition and food for 2 days, and they only have first-aid medicine. It added that the Sandinist Army has suffered many wounded and its positions between Bocay and Amaka are harassed with constant fire.

The rebels claim the Sandinist troops form part of the 5,000 men who were sent to Jinotega to dislodge from several temporary camps approximately 200 contras who had previously staged actions against garrisons, vehicles, and military and civilian installations in the region. "Our war is not of positions or of holding territories. When the Sandinists arrived at our camps, we had already abandoned them. We also try to avoid any frontal clash with the main body of the enemy troops. Today we are in areas inaccessible to them," the clandestine station said. It also reported that the Sandinists were supported by 30 MI-17 and MI-24 helicopters in an unprecedented air and ground deployment that was surprising because of the number of enemy casualties, estimated at 100 dead and 200 wounded; 2 MI-17 helicopters downed; and large amounts of seized materiel.

The rebel station did not give details of the contra casualties, but it did refer to what it termed "the low morale of the Sandinist soldiers, which leads them to desperation." It also described the offensive launched by the Sandinists as a "propaganda show," "because of the large number of journalists taken to the zone, which has only served to confirm that the action was a senseless deployment."

Jinotega Fighters 'Dislodged'

PA192315 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 1851 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 19 May (REUTER) -- The FDN has admitted its fighters were dislodged by Sandinist troops from a base in the northern Jinotega Department bordering Honduras.

The leftist Managua government announced last week that 800 anti-Sandinists had been dislodged from a position in the northern part of the country and had fled toward Honduras, where the group's bases are located. The Nicaraguan rebels had earlier said their forces repelled a Sandinist attack on their positions in the Las Amakas area, at the mouth of the Bocay River. Nevertheless, in a press communique distributed last night in this capital, the FDN admitted the dislodgement, although it denied that its forces had withdrawn to Honduran territory.

The FDN stated that Sandinist airborne infantry troops, supported by artillery helicopters, attacked "a temporary FDN camp" at the confluence of the Amakas and Bocay rivers. The FDN pointed out that the camp had been established since January and had been visited by reporters in April.

The FDN, the leading Nicaraguan rebel organization financed by Washington, said that in the attack the Sandinists mobilized 60 percent of their helicopter fleet, approximately 30 MI-17 type helicopters supported by a few MI-24's and MI-25's "to dislodge less than 200 Nicaraguan resistance fighters." The FDN said the Sandinists used between 3,000 and 5,000 troops in the attack, which -- according to the FDN -- was expected.

The organization pointed out that, "The strategy of guerrilla warfare is to attack and retreat, not to remain for long periods in fixed positions and much less to maintain territory at any cost. "Our strategy, therefore, could not be any simpler, more logical, and economic than to dislodge the camps and transfer our equipment and men to other parts of the area that are less accessible" even to the Sandinists, the press release stated.

The FDN communique assured that "the change of positions was very orderly and our casualties were minimal." The rebels denied that their troops fled to Honduran territory after the Sandinist attack in Las Amakas. "By no means did our troops enter Honduras. That is absolutely false. They are in Nicaragua," the report added.

FDN CLAIMS DOWNING ANOTHER SANDINIST MI-17

PA190421 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0347 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 18 May (DPA) -- The Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN), the largest anti-Sandinist rebel group, announced today having downed the second MI-17 helicopter thus far in the offensive launched by the Sandinists against the contra bases in the Bocay River valley on the Honduran border.

The information was disclosed in a communique released by the rebels in Tegucigalpa, noting that the helicopter was downed by a surface-to-air missile operated by its commandos. The Soviet-made MI-17 is the principal counterinsurgency weapon used by the Sandinists to attack the contras or to supply its regular forces.

The anti-Sandinists claim it is the 13th helicopter downed in their struggle, although Managua has only admitted losing a few. The FDN also reported that its forces destroyed 3 fuel storage tanks in Zelaya Department.

The rebels reported that the tanks contained lubricants, chemicals, and different types of fuel, and that the operation was carried out by special operations commandos (COE), the only elite group of the contras.

D'ESCOTO ON INFLUX OF U.S. TOURISM IN COUNTRY

PA191608 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto said yesterday that over half the foreigners who visit the country are U.S. citizens, and he emphasized the need to tell them the truth about the Nicaraguan process.

Addressing directors of INTURISMO [Nicaraguan Institute of Tourism], D'Escoto said U.S. citizens have continued coming to Nicaragua against the will of the U.S. President. D'Escoto said: Reagan is not sufficiently pleased with attacking Nicaragua with systematic lies. He has also tried several means to prevent U.S. citizens from coming to learn about our process. D'Escoto pointed out Reagan's desire to close the Nicaraguan Consulate to hinder the travel paperwork. However, aware of the purpose of that measure, D'Escoto said Nicaragua surprised the world by allowing U.S. citizens to travel to Nicaragua without a visa.

Those who work in the tourism field in Nicaragua are in charge of countering all the lies implanted in the U.S. citizens who visit the country, Foriegn Minister D'Escoto told INTURISMO directors. D'Escoto made those statements at Las Mercedes Hotel yesterday during the closing ceremony of a seminar for directors of tourist centers, hotels, and restaurants. He described tourism as the most obvious face Nicaragua presents to foreigners. He said this to stress that the attitude of the tourist sector employees is the first impression transmitted to foreigners when they arrive in the country.

D'Escoto spoke as a diplomat. He said the influx of tourists is important for Nicaragua, and Nicaragua does not receive traditional tourists, but labor leaders, teachers, professionals, and people who can have some influence on international opinion. He said over half our tourists come from the United States against the will of the U.S. Government. D'Escoto said it is important to have a positive influence on tourism in Nicaragua.

COSTA RICA'S CARRERA ON MEETING WITH TALAVERA

PA181357 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] Rodrigo Carrera, foreign policy director general of Costa Rica, has described as satisfactory his meeting with Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Leon Talavera in which he presented President Oscar Arias' peace plan.

In statements made after the meeting, Carrera said he found no objections from Nicaragua. We have found interest in the plan; constructive observations made by Nicaragua will help strengthen Costa Rica's plan, Carrera added.

For his part, Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Leon Talavera said Nicaragua will present its observations to the plan before the presidential summit in Esquipulas. Talavera added: We hope the plan does not aspire to substitute Contadora and will instead add to the negotiating efforts.

Carrera said the observations made on the Arias plan in Central American countries will be incorporated into the plan as long as they do not alter its basic structure. Carrera, who came to Managua yesterday to gather observations on the plan of the Costa Rican president, said that those observations not altering the points on the suspension of aid to rebel forces, the cease-fire, and other important aspects of the plan will be included in it.

On their last leg of a Central American tour to present and gather opinions on President Oscar Arias' peace plan, representatives of the Costa Rican Government presented general points of the plan to Deputy Minister Talavera. Following a meeting with Talavera, Rodrigo Carrera said Nicaragua made constructive observations on the plan. Here is Costa Rican representative Rodrigo Carrera:

[Begin Carrera recording] We held a very satisfactory meeting during which we discussed general points of the Arias plan. We have great expectations that between now and the Esquipulas meeting we will have gathered all observations from the various countries.

Upon our return to Costa Rica, we will evaluate the observations received. As we receive other observations, we will be further complying with a mandate given Costa Rica at a meeting of presidents that was held at Costa Rica's National Theater. That preamble to this peace effort stated that the Arias plan should be enriched by the opinions of Central Americans. We are growing optimistic with the support that Costa Rica has been receiving from different world countries that the Arias plan might create the initial conditions enabling us to strengthen peace in Central America, ensuring that we will never face a war situation, and stopping the bloodshed that has been affecting our peoples for so long. [end recording]

Upon being asked about possible objections by Nicaragua to President Arias' plan, Carrera said:

[Begin recording] [Carrera] We have not encountered any major differences. Of course we have some philosophical differences, not toward the Arias plan, but regarding the concept of life. However, we believe that based on those differences, we will be able to greatly strengthen our communications and, thus, improve the perspectives, the idea of each people...

[Reporter, interrupting] [Words indistinct] discussed today?

[Carrera] General aspects of President Arias's peace plan. For the time being we have found no objection. As the situation changes, from now to the Esquipulas meeting, we agreed to receive any initiatives or more specific objections. For the time being there is no indication of any objection from the Nicaraguan Government. [end recording]

RAMIREZ RETURNS AFTER 1-WEEK VISIT TO MEXICO

PA200108 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] Vice President Sergio Ramirez Mercado returned from Mexico this morning. During his 1-week stay in that country, the vice president met with Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid and other political figures.

During his visit, Dr Ramirez reaffirmed the revolutionary government's determination to achieve a peaceful resolution to the Central American crisis within the Contadora framework.

[Begin Ramirez recording] We have reaffirmed that the Arias plan will be discussed at the Esquipulas presidential summit and that we have not taken a position against this plan. Quite the contrary, we welcome this proposal which will aid in resolving the Central American crisis. [end recording]

On this subject, former Costa Rican Ambassador Jose Rafael Cordero Corcini stated:

[Begin Cordero Corcini recording] Just as we backed the neutrality position, we now support the peace plan that has been presented by President Arias as long as it is a peace plan that does not attempt to impose a system of government on another government, that it implies respect for all nations and for all governments, and that it is within the spirit of Contadora. [end recording]

HENRY RUIZ DEPARTS NORWAY, ARRIVES IN AUSTRIA

PA152311 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 14 May 87 p 5

[Text] The conclusion of Commander Henry Ruiz's visit to Oslo has coincided with the arrival of U.S. Secretary of Defense Casper Weinberger at the Norwegian capital. Unlike the cordial welcome that the people in this Nordic country gave the Nicaraguan delegation, Weinberger's welcome was characterized by riots and demonstrations rejecting the Reagan administration's aggression against Nicaragua.

The FSLN National Directorate member yesterday began a busy agenda [in Austria] that includes meeting with leaders of the Socialist-Christian Democratic coalition government and Dr Abdulaih, secretary general of the OPEC Fund. Commander Ruiz will also meet with solidarity committees and hold interviews with the local news media.

The Sandinist leader will meet today with Foreign Minister Alois Mock, a Christian Democrat, who is also leader of the Conservative International -- an organization of parties that was founded in 1983 upon his own initiative and that of other leaders. Ruiz will also meet with Federal Chancellor (Prime Minister) Franz Vranitzky, a Socialist.

The Austrian Government and the revolution have maintained good political relations and cooperation, and it is expected that the Nicaraguan delegation's visit will confirm the position of the current government, in which a coalition was comprised since February.

Commander Ruiz will be in Vienna until Saturday.

Concludes European Tour

PA181746 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 18 May 87

[Text] After concluding a 15-day working tour through Western Europe during which he visited The Netherlands, Norway, and Austria, Commander of the Revolution Henry Ruiz returned to Managua tonight. Foreign Cooperation Minister Ruiz went to those countries to explain the economic situation of Nicaragua, a country that is the target of an aggression and economic blockade by the Reagan administration of the United States. At the Sandino Airport, Commander Ruiz reported to the newsmen on the successful results of his tour.

DEMOCRATIC COORDINATING BOARD PICKS NEW LEADER

PA151744 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 14 May 87

[Report by Gustavo Montalban]

[Excerpts] There was a hard fight in the Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board last night during the third meeting to elect a new leadership of the organization, which represents political, social, and economic sectors of the country. Carlos Huembes, secretary general of the Central Organization of Nicaraguan Workers, CTN, was elected president. He was unanimously elected following the withdrawal of Guillermo Potoy, Adan Fletes, and Silviano Matamoros, candidates of political organizations. The withdrawal of the opposition politicians came at the last minute when it was seen that none of them would obtain the three-fourths of the votes needed to win. [passage omitted]

Guillermo Potoy nominated Carlos Huembes, who then obtained the unanimous support of the voters. Conservative Jose Castillo nominated Ramiro Gurdian, representative of COSEP [Higher Council of Private Enterprise], for first vice president. Gurdian was then elected to that post. [passage omitted]

With the election of Carlos Huembes, a representative of the workers, it is the first time the Democratic Coordinating Board is led by a labor leader. [passage omitted]

BRIEFS

SOVIET RICE DONATION -- This morning, 250,000 quintals of rice arrived in the port of Corinto from the Soviet Union. This shipment is an important donation from the Soviet Union to the Nicaraguan people and Government as a gesture of solidarity with our country. The arrival of this rice will enable the government to help resolve the people's needs in this basic food product. [Text] [Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 16 May 87 PA]

CASTRO PRESIDES OVER FARMERS AWARDS CEREMONY

FL181232 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 18 May 87

[Text] The Romarico Cordero medal, the highest ANAP [National Association of Small Farmers] decoration, was presented last night to 56 revolutionary fighters, including outstanding leaders and peasants, during a formal ceremony presided over by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro at Cubanacan's Protocol Hall.

ANAP Vice President Juan Jose Leon read the proclamation stating that the awardees were receiving the medal in accordance with decrees 753 and 758 adopted by the Council of State on 28 April and 6 May. Three peasant leaders from brother countries were among those decorated. [Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish at 1100 GMT on 18 May in a similar report names the following among the awardees: Jorge Enrique Mendoza, Diocles Torralba, and Jose Felipe Carneado, all members of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee]

RAUL CASTRO PRAISES ISLE OF YOUTH MILITARY REGION

FL161231 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] The 25th anniversary of the founding of the Isle of Youth military region was praised yesterday in a message sent by Army General Raul Castro, FAR minister. The text of the message sent by Raul Castro, second secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Central Committee and first vice president of the Council of State and the government, was read during a ceremony marking the anniversary.

Raul's message is directed to chiefs, officials, sergeants, soldiers, and the people of Pinar del Rio in general. His message expresses his firm conviction that the combatants of the military region will continue to efficiently fulfill the new missions of the PCC and the commander in chief.

The ceremony was held at the old Model Prison and was presided over by Division General Ulises Rosales del Toro, alternate member of the PCC Politburo, first FAR vice minister and chief of the general staff.

RISQUET MEETS WITH PAPANDREOU IN ATHENS

FL191316 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] Jorge Risquet Valdes, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Politburo, was received in Athens by Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou. The Cuban leader presented the Greek head of state with a friendly message sent by President Fidel Castro. The Greek Prime Minister sent warm greetings to Fidel through Risquet, and added the Greek Government's wishes to strengthen relations with Cuba. In a cordial setting, Papandreou and Risquet also exchanged views of peace, disarmament, and other current international matters.

RAMON FERNANDEZ OPENS TV-RADIO MEETING

FL192120 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1942 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] At the inaugural session of the 33d general assembly of International Organization of Radio and Television, OIRT, Jose Ramon Fernandez, vice president of the Council of Ministers, has stressed the importance of the new information organization. It will provide the capability to use massive broadcasting methods and satellites to elevate culture and stimulate education among the peoples everywhere, said Ramon Fernandez, who is also education minister.

Ramon Fernandez added that the meeting of radio and television stations from 23 countries will enhance the highest and most common national values and contribute to well-being and peace. The Cuban OIRT delegation is headed by Ismael Gonzalez, president of the Cuban Institute of Radio and Television.

CSSR SINGS RADIO-TV COOPERATION PROTOCOL

FL192145 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1943 GMT 19 May 87

[By Juan Emilio Frigols]

[Text] A cooperation protocol was signed in the Palace of Conventions this afternoon by the Cuban Institute of Radio and Television [ICRT] and the CSSR delegation attending the meeting of the International Organization of Radio and Television. [OIRT] A similar document will be signed this afternoon by the ICRT and the radio and television delegation from the Polish People's Republic.

Other agreements will be signed during the 33d general assembly of the OIRT, which was inaugurated this morning in Havana. As was reported earlier, the 62d session of the OIRT Administrative Council also was held today in the Palace of Conventions.

GHANA'S ANNAN SAYS VISIT PRODUCTIVE; DEPARTS

FL192250 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1945 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] Justice Daniel Annan, member of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] of Ghana, has described his visit to our country as a successful opportunity to strengthen the already cordial relations between Cuba and Ghana. Annan visited Cuba at the invitation of the National Assembly of People's Government [ANPP].

Severo Aguirre del Cristo, ANPP vice president, headed the delegation that said farewell to the Ghanaian official at Havana's Jose Marti International Airport. In statements made to the press, Annan said his 1-week stay in Cuba was very productive because he had the opportunity to discuss similar positions with high-level Cuban officials on important aspects of the international situation. During his week in Cuba, the PNDC member and his delegation met with Cuban leaders and visited centers of interest.

COMMENTARY ON IRANGATE-COSTA RICA CONNECTION

PA180400 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 15 May 87

["Note" feature by Amalia Sanmartino]

[Text] A strange incident occurred 2 days ago in the Costa Rican capital, and its ultimate goal is to silence accusations and suspend investigations. Public security agents raided the residence of two U.S. reporters, whom they are trying to implicate in drug trafficking operations.

Reporters Tony Avirgan and Martha Honey were wounded during an attack that occurred 3 years ago in La Penca against Nicaraguan contra leader Eden Pastora. Avirgan and Honey later ascertained that the event was part of a broad criminal network linked to the CIA, drug trafficking, the counterrevolution, and the Irangate scandal.

Avirgan and Honey who have filed a suit against CIA agents whom they blamed for the attack at La Penca, were accused on Thursday of receiving a package of cocaine. According to the Costa Rican authorities, the package had been sent to them by Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge. Avirgan and Honey said no one in their right mind could believe that Commander Borge would send cocaine by mail to two U.S. reporters. They emphasized that the event was carefully prepared to prevent any disclosure about the results of their investigation.

Everyone has clearly ascertained that the CIA tried to eliminate Eden Pastora 3 years ago and is now trying to get rid of the evidence. However, all this is part of an overall maneuver to prevent the political crisis that has been unleashed in Costa Rica concerning the participation of political figures in the Irangate scandal. According to the latest information, former presidential candidate Rafael Angel Calderon reportedly received funds from the covert sale of U.S. weapons to Iran. That is not all. Retired U.S. General Richard Secord has now stated that former [Costa Rican] President Luis Alberto Monge authorized the construction of a cladestine landing strip in the northern area of the country to supply the anti-Nicaraguan bands. Everything seems to indicate that the current Costa Rican president had the way prepared to continue his support for the Nicaraguan counterrevolution. Apparently all he neeeded was a political plan. However, his U.S. friends have already helped him to prepare a plan, and he is currently showing it off in Europe.

LIFTING OF PARAGUAYAN STATE OF SIEGE MEANS LITTLE

PA190459 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 May 87

["Our America" commentary read by Manolo Ortega]

[Text] Slightly more than a month has passed since the state of siege that Alfredo Stroessner's regime imposed on Paraguay for decades was lifted, but everything indicates very little has changed in this South American nation.

In previous commentaries, we said we were sure a measure like that was only to try and improve the dictatorship's international image and that violence and repression would go on as usual. Stroessner wants to offer for international consumption only a caricature of openness with the clear purpose of staying in power, which he has held since 1954. Washington encourages this policy, no doubt because so far it does not have a worthy figure for a favorable change in Uruguay's [as heard] political structure.

It is worthwhile to mention that the so-called traditional opposition in Paraguay has neither an alternate platform nor the support of the people, who have formed their own organizations to confront the dictator and end the national crisis. Seventy-five percent of Paraguay's 3.6 million people have always lived in a state of siege and have told the international press that nothing has changed in the authorities' position and behavior since the presumed lifting of the state of siege.

In the past 30 days, police forces rushed priests and seminarians who tried to hold a Stations of the Cross procession, students were forbidden to hold an event, several labor leaders were sent to prison, and the Ipacarai music festival continued to be suspended. A single event was permitted on 1 May, Labor Day, but the dictatorship suspended public transportation to spoil the commemoration. According to leaders of dissident sectors in the government's party, the lifting of the state of siege is to create an international image only. Father Americo Ferreira has termed the measure the regime's plastic surgery forced by the circumstances. Domingo Laino, an opposition leader who has returned to the country recently, has said his return is also a propaganda move. He added that he saw the police rush those who waited for him at the Asuncion airport on 25 April, when he returned to his homeland.

Adverse opinions have also been elicited by the so-called legal measures being considered by the regime. These measures have been reported as substitutes for the brutal provisions of the permanent state of siege. Undoubtedly, the solution for the politico-social crisis in Paraguay includes neither Stroessner's apparently reformed continuity nor the deceptive positions of people completely removed from the basic problems that the masses confront.

HONDURAN COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ABUSE REPORTS

PA092303 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 9 May 87

[Text] The Honduran Human Rights Committee has reported that it will investigate the reports it has received on U.S. soldiers' sexual abuse of minors in Comayagua Department. Ramon Custodio, president of this humanitarian organization, has asserted that this is the second time that charges of this type have been made against U.S. troops stationed at the Honduran military base of Palermola since 1983.

In addition, the Honduran Human Rights Committee will ask the Public Health Ministry to investigate the frequency of AIDS in this Honduran department after U.S. soldiers arrived there.

HONDURAN DEFORESTATION SAID U.S. RESPONSIBILITY

PA190105 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 18 May 87

[Text] Along with all the evils that are a result of the massive presence of U.S. troops and bands of former Somozist guards in its territory, and in addition to being one of the poorest nations in Latin America, Honduras is confronted today with continuous deforestation and the resulting ecological weakening that this entails. In fact, many visitors have reported that Honduras now has many cities enveloped in a sort of fog that, far from having an origin similar to London fog, is the result of the indiscriminate burning of thousands of hectares of wooded areas to satisfy the desire for land by the oligarchic groups and to establish new foreign military enclaves.

The local authorities are naturally trying to blame this disaster on the Miskito Indians who were forced to leave Nicaragua under pressure by the counterrevolutionary groups, and are today trying to survive in Honduras. However, even if these farmers cut some trees in order to prepare land for planting, the most depredatory action is the result of other factors that the government does not mention.

Sources from the Honduran Corporation of Forest Development reported 56,200 hectares of forest have been destroyed so far this year, and that 45,000 hectares of lumber area near the Nicaraguan border have been destroyed by fire or have been cut. As we said earlier, the small farmers are being blamed for this, but it is not by mere chance the destruction takes place in an area where the bands of former Somozist guards operate freely and where the U.S. forces are trying to carry out continuous maneuvers and build fortifications and bases to attack the neighboring country. According to experts who are concerned over this situation, the country is gradually becoming a desert as there are mountain ranges that now have only small shrubs while the large trees that had been there for hundreds of years have disappeared. It is said that dense smoke resulting from deliberate forest fires can be seen in various parts of Honduras, and that the winds may take that smoke to other Central American nations.

The same sources stated the smoke is even affecting operations at the Tegucigalpa international airport, and visibility is zero for approximately 2 or 3 km around the airport. This affects not only the climate of the country, but also lumber production, although we must take into consideration several private enterprises engaged in that activity assume this in a totally irresponsible manner.

According to some experts, it is very possible in 10 years there will not be any forests in Honduras that can be economically exploited. This is in spite of the fact that 21 out of the 129 Honduran lumberyards have been closed so far this year. According to experts working in the western area of Olancho Department, the voracity of the lumber businessmen is such that to evade taxes they declare to the government only half of the trees they cut, even if the country will quickly lose its forestry reserves. Some of the local media report on this situation and criticize the government for not taking a firm stand that will counter a destructive process contrary to the interests of the people, and particularly of the peasants who have been terribly exploited.

CEMA SCIENTIFIC-TECHNICAL COUNCIL MEETING BEGINS

FL192211 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1944 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] The 22d meeting of the CEMA scientific-technical council began today in Santiago de Cuba with representatives from eight nations attending. This is the first time the meeting has been held in Cuba. The countries attending the meeting are Bulgaria, Hungary, GDR, Poland, Romania, the USSR, the CSSR, and Cuba. The delegates have signed a document on the manufacturing of biomedical equipment for use in research and clinical medicine.

(Ney Quesada), director of the medical equipment factory Retomed [no further expansion provided] in Santiago de Cuba, welcomed the participants and introduced the recently-elected president of the scientific-technical council, (Anatoly Nikolayev Mayorov), from the USSR.

Also corresponding to the inauguration of the meeting, the largest exhibit displayed by that group opened in Santiago de Cuba. The meeting will end on Saturday [23 May].

CONSTRUCTION MINISTER SPEAKS AT GROUP OF 77 MEETING

FL190144 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 May 87

[Text] The main event at the evening session of the Group of 77 meeting on consultations, construction, and engineering was the analysis of the report issued by UNIDO [United Nations Industrial Development Organization]. The meeting began this morning at the Palace of Conventions with a speech by Levi Farah, Minister of Construction Materials Industry and president of the UNECA [Caribbean Construction Enterprise Union].

Farah said the creation of Third World construction forces with independent resources and based on our needs and capabilities is necessary for economic development.

[Begin Farah recording] That is the goal that unites us today. You will examine the possibility and capability of this project as well as the forms of cooperation among developing countries. [end recording]

The meeting is being attended by representatives from 20 countries, the UNIDO, and the UNCTAD. The event will end 21 May.

MINAZ MINISTER DISCUSSES SUGAR INDUSTRY

FL151909 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1418 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] We must speed up the delivery of sugarcane to the mills so it gets there as fresh as possible.

This was said by Juan Herrera, Cuban Minister of the Sugar Industry [MINAZ], during an exclusive interview with this radio station. Minister Herrera said the milling of sugar with a minimum of interruptions is a MINAZ goal for future harvests. If we can do this, then we will be able to produce more sugar.

Regarding the industry's expected growth in the next 5 years, Minister Herrera said the irrigation and drainage by parcels and the spraying of herbicides will contribute to a greater production of raw material. He added that in the future, the milling must be completed during the month of April in order to avoid a drop in the amount of available sugarcane which usually happens during the month of May.

During the special interview, Minister Herrera said that some problems were encountered with the price of certain spareparts when these were sold to the peasants. Herrera said the problem was caused by the fact many people had not been advised that specific prices had been established. This was proven while investigating complaints. The sugar industry minister said the quality in the repair of the motors is still poor and added measures have been adopted to prevent further mistakes. He said the spring planting is MINAZ' main goal and that the sugarcane workers are willing to fulfill the spring plan.

HOLGUIN MINING PLAN EXCEEDS 1.5 BILLION PESOS

FL151332 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] The mining-metallurgical development plan in northeast Holguin is valued at over 1.5 billion pesos. This information was given to the national and foreign press by Miguel Cano Blanco, member of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Central Committee and first secretary of the Holguin PCC. Cano Blanco expressed Cuba's appreciation to the socialist community, especially the Soviet Union, for its decisive support in the development of the Cuban nickel industry.

FOREIGN RELATIONS OFFICIAL ON ILLEGAL ALIENS, HAITI

FL152004 Santo Domingo Radio Clarin in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] The secretary of foreign relations has pointed out that the repatriation of Dominican illegal aliens from the United States would deal a harsh blow to the government's programs to reactivate the economy. Dr Donald Reid Cabral stated in Santiago that the United States, which is a nation of immigrants to whom it owes its very existence and all its progress, should carefully consider the full magnitude of deporting these immigrants.

It has been estimated that hundreds of thousands of Dominicans might be repatriated as a result of the new U.S. immigration law.

The foreign secretary also spoke of commercial relations with Haiti and announced that studies are underway on the possibility of setting up [words indistinct] to encourage [word indistinct] and trade in the border region. Reid Cabral said that the country's private sector should play a fundamental role in this process. He noted that agreement had been reached to allow passage across the border of people [words indistinct] but that the agreement must still be expanded to cover trade that will profit both Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

Senators Write Reagan

FL152113 Santo Domingo Radio Clarin in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 May 87

[Text] Two Dominican senators have sent a letter to U.S. President Ronald Reagan asking that American authorities not to deport some 300,000 Dominicans living illegally in the United States. Senators Jose Osvaldo Leger and Virgilio Castillo, both from the Christian Social Reformist Party, tell Reagan that the Dominican Republic lacks the economic conditions to receive these undocumented Dominicans. They also cite the country's situation arising from the U.S. reduction of the sugar quota and recall the friendship that has always existed between the Dominican Republic and the United States even during the 1965 occupation.

The senators say that the million Dominicans residing in the United States are an important soruce of foreign exchange for the country because they send dollars to their families. Leger and Castillo add that some 300,000 undocumented Dominicans might be repatriated as a result of the new immigration law. They explain that the Dominican Republic has no jobs or food for the repatriated Dominicans, nor can it provide the standard of living they are accustomed to from the years of living on American soil.

The two senators say that Dominicans need better treatment than that received after so many years of solidarity with the United States of America.

GOVERNMENT ALLOWS JORGE BLANCO TO GO TO U.S.

PA141802 Paris AFP in Spanish 1745 GMT 14 May 87

[Text] Santo Domingo, 14 May (AFP) -- The Dominican Government has granted a temporary release and lifted the exit impediment against former President Salvador Jorge Blanco, allowing him to travel in the next few hours to a hospital in the United States. The country's attorney general made the announcement this afternoon.

The agreement to solve the former president's complex situation was reached based on Jorge Blanco's concession that he is under preventive arrest because of his alleged tie to acts of corruption committed during his administration (1982-86).

BALAGUER NOT TO ACCEPT IMF 'IMPOSITIONS'

PA191629 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0501 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] Santo Domingo, 18 May (EFE) -- The Dominican Government will not accept any impositions from the IMF or any other international credit organization that harm the people's interests, President Joaquin Balaguer said today.

Balaguer announced his determination to newsmen who asked him about the new "surveillance" agreement that the Dominican Government signed with the IMF.

The president said that the agreement does not mean that the IMF will put a straight jacket on the Dominican economy, but that it will only observe the national financial situation to later make recommendations that it feels will improve the situation.

"However, this agreement does not mean that we will do what they want. The government knows that it should do; it was elected by the people; it owes itself to the people; and it will work for the people," Balaguer stated.

The agreements with the IMF bring back sad memories to the Dominicans, because on 23, 24 and 25 April 1984, thousands of persons took to the streets to protest a "stand-by" [previous word given in English] agreement that hiked the cost of living. The police were unable to control the demonstrators, and the government ordered the Army into the streets; as a result, 102 persons were killed.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES MORE FOOD PRICE INCREASES

FL191626 Bridgetown CANA in English 1431 GMT 19 May 87

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, May 19, CANA - The government announced another batch of price increases last night, the latest to result from the removal of an exchange rate subsidy on basic food items. The increases, which are as high as 45 per cent, cover locally produced flour, rice, tea, tinned sardines, condensed and evaporated milk, corned beef and butter. The largest hike affected corned beef and was attributed by the prices commission to the dramatic fall in the world supply of the product.

The government unified the exchange rate last January ending 13 months with a dual rate after a 33 per cent devaluation of the local dollar. Imported food items were kept at the pre-devaluation rate.

The small opposition People's Popular Movement (PPM) today called for a new marketing board to monitor alleged hoarding and price mark-ups. The PPM also recommended that consumer groups set up to help the prices commission set and regulate prices.

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES NEW DRAFT INVESTMENT POLICY

FL191716 Bridgetown CANA in English 2116 GMT 17 May 87

[By Debra Ransome]

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, May 17, CANA -- The new Trinidad and Tobago Government has made public a new draft policy providing recommended guidelines for foreign and local investment. The document was released yesterday at a time when industrial development, solving unemployment, and replenishing the country's foreign exchange reserves have been earmarked as priorities by the National Alliance for Reconstruction (NAR) government. The 39-page document, already passed through cabinet, was put out for comment by the public and business community. It proposes scrapping of the country's foreign exchange allocations for imports -- EC-0 [not further identified] -- system as an incentive to raise levels of foreign exchange earnings and permission for some totally foreign owned investment here.

The document, prepared by the governmental Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), also proposes possible revamping of the much criticised corporate tax systems, proposals to allow nationals to bring home savings from illegal foreign bank accounts without action taken against them and promises to remove taxes on savings.

As well as outlining incentives for export development, research and development and further industrial development, the document proposes to open up the local capital market to foreign investors in a limited way while promising faster steps to develop a short-term bond market.

The policy of the government of Trinidad and Tobago is to develop to the fullest the potential of the agro-industrial and other productive and service sectors of the economy with a view to meeting the economic development and employment aspirations of the country, the document stated. In that context, the government seeks to enhance the investment climate as an encouragement to both local and foreign capital, it added, stating a preference for joint venture local-foreign investment mechanisms. The document places the earning of foreign exchange at the top of its priority list.

It also gives priority to investment creating a significant number of permanent jobs, making efficient use of local raw materials, offering further expansion prospects and stimulating technological development.

The IDC listed 19 proposed areas for development including the hotel industry, fishing, ceramics, glass, wood and capital goods production, chemicals, downstream steel, plastics and gas related exploitation, textile production, engineering and computer service improvement.

The new list, however, also added suggestions for investment in local motor vehicle and bus body production, investment in the garment sector, establishment of export processing zones in formerly oil-rice south Trinidad areas and investment in trans-shipment services. To follow are some of the major areas tackled by the draft document which seeks to open up investment:

Incentives for investment. The current economic circumstances demand that policy instruments and incentives address both the promotion of new instruments in industry and for encouraging existing companies to upgrade their capability through mechanisation and automation and through the introduction of new products and the development of export, the document said. It provides some outlines for incentives as follows:

- Companies earning over 50 per cent of their foreign exchange hard currency needs would be exempt from the EC-0 system of applying for foreign exchange. Those companies earning their full hard currency needs would be allowed to operate a local foreign currency account providing only monthly returns to the country's Central Bank.

- Local companies earning their own hard currency requirements would receive an export allowance of 10 cents to each dollar through a corporation tax rebate (the provision does not include the country's key petroleum sector).

- Government would provide half the cost of preliminary investment for local companies embarked on export development activities including market research, testing and travel.

- A review of the country's corporate tax structure to attract both local and foreign investment.

- A proposal to remove taxes on individual savings.

- Although special petroleum sector taxation plans are being compiled separately, the document promised a 150 per cent investment allowance for new petroleum exploration and mining operations.

- Backdated investment tax allowances for new plant and machinery.

- Loans, subsidies, and concessions for certain export, technology and upgrading development investments.

Attracting national's overseas savings: In the first attempt by a government here to acknowledge and deal with the known illegal foreign bank accounts held by nationals, the document promised to turn a blind eye on such investments and allow the money to be brought back home. Nationals with overseas savings should be allowed to transfer such monies to local bank accounts with no punitive action of any sort, the document said, while also guaranteeing the convertability of all such savings. Such transfers would allow nationals to hold 60 per cent in foreign currency accounts and 40 per cent in local dollars. All such funds would have to be retained here for at least six months. Interest on such savings would be tax free while dividends would also be allowed free conversion.

Overseas investment: Notwithstanding the short run problems of foreign exchange availability, the government recognizes the advantages of allowing local enterprises to invest abroad in particular circumstances, the document said. It outlined possibilities for such overseas investment, stipulating it could be done once local products exports were stimulated.

Foreign ownership: The policy, if accepted in its present form, would allow flexible application of the aliens landholdings ordinance which requires licences to be issued for the holding of any shares locally.

The document made it clear that joint ventures would be most desirable while investment promoting foreign exchange earnings, jobs, and the use of raw materials would be given priority. Total foreign ownership of an enterprise here would only be permissible if the foreign company provides all its needed capital and technology, and either exports all its output for hard currency, uses a lot of local materials or generates significant or quality employment locally.

Such foreign investors would only be allowed access to the local money market for up to 20 per cent of its equity after 18 months in operation and these companies would be required to provide opportunities to train nationals.

The document also promised to amend the aliens ordinance to allow up 20 per cent of shares in one single enterprise to be owned by foreign investors without a work permit.

The recommendations would apply to both listed and private companies. The IDC also listed 29 sectors, including the news media, commercial banking, advertising, the distributive trades, petroleum marketing, small non-export businesses and insurance, that would be closed to foreign investment.

Technology transfer: The document further allows the industrial development corporation to record, regulate and approve all technology transfers.

Other areas:

- Acknowledging the lack of institutional project financing infrastructure, the IDC promised to be more active in helping local companies access local and foreign capital including provisions for the floating of IDC bonds, encouraging venture investment companies, and stimulating plans for the much promised local bond market in secondary trading.

- The IDC's new one-stop shop committee (ICC) would arrange for co-ordination with local utilities for project development giving the ICC overall investment proposal approving power.

- Grants, tax incentives, deductible expenses and investment allowances or research and development.

The document appeared to include a number of requests, including changes in the country's fiscal system often complained of as hampering further local investment and recommended delivery of electoral promises of personal tax changes to encourage savings. The proposals come at a time when Energy Minister Kelvin Ramnath has already indicated that foreign oil and heavy industry companies are interested in heavy industrial development here and a number of government ministers have made trips abroad discussing plans with foreign private and public sector interests as well as international monetary institutions.

BRAZIL'S O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO INTERVIEWS BOUTERSE

PY192150 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 17 May 87 p A-16

[Interview with Desire Delano Bouterse, Surinamese head of government and identified by O ESTADO as "army minister," by Marcia Chaer in Paramaribo on 3 May 1987]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted]

[Chaer] What is the current situation in Suriname?

[Bouterse] After almost 8 years of revolution and 3 years of preparations, we will present a new constitution to the people. The political parties will register next month. In September, the people will decide whether or not they want the new constitution. If the constitution is accepted, there will be free and secret elections on 25 November. Today the country has a political forum where the government, the workers, the businessmen, and the politicians are working together. The forum decides our country's policies. But we also have to confront a small group of terrorists who receive foreign financial support and who have decided that it is they, and not the country's representative institutions, who know what Suriname wants.

In the economic area, the situation is very, very sad. There is no demand for our products on the world market. It is almost impossible to ask for more sacrifice from the people. The people want their bread. The situation is very unstable.

[Chaer] You said if the people say yes, there will be elections. What will happen if the people say no?

[Bouterse] If the people say no, it means they are against this political contribution. It will mean we should either draw up a new constitution or leave. But if we go, who will set the political course of the country? The major political parties are cooperating with us, and so are the businessmen, the labor organizations, and the militarymen of the 25 Februray Movement. We have the broadest coalition the country has ever had. All of these sectors are now urging their followers to accept the constitution.

[Chaer] Will the November elections and the presidential elections be held anyway?

[Bouterse] There will be elections in November. As for the presidential elections, it is for the National Assembly to decide because it will elect the president. The parties that participated in the process will choose their candidates.

[Chaer] Will you be the candidate of your party?

[Bouterse] I do not intend to lead the process as a candidate or as a party representative. We will found a party on which I am already working. If my party chooses me, I will have to think it over carefully, because it involves a sacrifice for one's own private life. I should also take into account that, as Army commander in chief, I would not have enough time. The Constitution sets forth that the president is the Army commander. But that is a theoretical statement, because one can have power in theory, but if one is outside the Army, the situation is quite different. Therefore, I will have to think about accepting a candidacy.

[Chaer] Is it possible to once again have good relations with the Netherlands?

[Bouterse] We want good relations with all countries. The Netherlands is a special country in our foreign relations. It is special from the viewpoint of history, the economy, and the number of Surinamese people who live in that country.

[Chaer] What is the status of your country's relations with Cuba, Libya, and the USSR?

[Bouterse] I reiterate that we want the best relations with all countries. This cannot be merely a rhetorical statement. We want to have good relations with the USSR, just as we want to have good relations with the United States. Unfortunately, we do not keep formal contacts with Havana. This does not entirely depend on us, because if Cuba wants to establish relations with us we will welcome them. Our condition is to respect each other's self-determination. We have contacts with Libya, which has an embassy with 14 employees here; all the other embassies are aware of this. The campaign that says we have hundreds of Libyans here seeks to damage our image in the United States, France, and in Latin America.

[Chaer] Brazil is following events in Suriname with great concern. Does your government worry about that?

[Bouterse] We have very good relations with Brazil. We believe in a policy of total integration in the region. Our ties with neighboring countries are very strong and we are very happy to have sincere relations with Guyana and Brazil.

[Chaer] You said if the people reject the constitution you might leave. If you withdraw from politics, what will you do?

[Bouterse] The constitution is not likely to be rejected. But if it is rejected, the Army will decide what will happen to me.

[Chaer] Are you likely to leave your country and move to Brazil, as has been said?

[Bouterse] I never said I would move to Brazil. It is not true that I have holdings in Belem, the United States, or Switzerland. My wife has friends in Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, where she usually takes our children for vacation. Our adversaries, however, have said that we are fleeing the country. I cannot leave Suriname and move to another country.

[Chaer] Has the number of terrorist attacks and dead on both sides been reported?

[Bouterse] On our side, 20 soldiers and people's militia volunteers have been killed. As for the terrorists, it is very difficult to know. However, they should have sustained 20 times as many casualties. As for the attacks, they occur every day. Yesterday, for example, the terrorists attacked Albina in eastern Suriname. Yet they do not pose any problem form a military viewpoint. The point is that we cannot defend all the bridges and all the highways of Suriname. They wait until there is no guard on a bridge, or no group of soldiers, around and then they attack. It is not a conflict between two armies.

[Chaer] How many terrorists are there?

[Bouterse] Between 150 and 200. They operate in groups of 8 to 10.

[Chaer] Has your Army captured any guerrillas or mercenaries?

[Bouterse] Not mercenaries, but many guerrillas.

[Chaer] Have you found a weapon or any indication of Brazil's presence?

[Bouterse] If they have Brazilian arms it is because they were taken from a dead solider. We know terrorists went to Brazil to buy weapons. I am talking on the basis of concrete facts, not mere opinions. We personnaly saw them in Brazil. They do not have Brazilian weapons, but that could change at any time.

[Chaer] The main charge leveled against your government is the murder of 15 opposition members in December 1982. Who killed those people?

[Bouterse] To kill people is not the policy of Surinamese militarymen. No one died like that in Suriname between 1980 and 1982. However, everyone is talking about the 15 persons who were killed in December 1982. I will tell you why: There are people who are going around the world saying we killed those 15 people, and these are the same people who sponsored the coups in our country, during which they planned to kill not 15 but 1,500 people. Fortunately, those coups failed. We foiled those attacks against the state, in which hundreds of people would have died. The price paid for this was the lives of those 15 persons; this is why the whole world has condemned us.

[Chaer] Who killed the 15 people?

[Bouterse] They were killed by soldiers.

[Chaer] Who was the commander?

[Bouterse, taking a break] Those are military affairs. Who was commanding the group doesn't really matter. I am the responsible one. I am the Surinamese Army commander. That's the harsh truth, that is how things are.

[Chaer] Is it true the 15 people were tortured before they were killed?

[Bouterse] Those who say that are the same people who charge that prisoners are tortured in Suriname. If we deny the charge they will not believe in our words. What we can do is ask the international organizations to come and see what is happening here. Those who accuse us get furious if international agency delegates come here and tell the truth. But our enemies have newspapers and radio stations.

[Chaer] Even though you may dislike it, technically speaking you are a dictator. The country does not have a constitution, there is a president and a prime minister, but it is you who have absolute control over the country. In other words, the state of law here is a legal fiction, as in any other dictatorship.

[Bouterse] Well, we need a definition of the word dictatorship. The political process is being implemented with the participation of parties, labor organizations, businessmen, and the military. There is not a single political prisoner in the country. No arbitrary actions are committed and individual rights are respected. I cannot see any dictatorship in this, and I do not know whether it will be of any use for the country to have a constitution if the people are leaving because they do not have faith in the country. Before the revolution we had a constitution, but this did not prevent 200,000 Suriname people from fleeing the country.

VII. WESTERN EUROPE DAILY REPORT	Contents unchanged
VIII. SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA DAILY REPORT	Renamed; formerly SOUTH ASIA DAILY REPORT; contents include: International Affairs Inter-African Affairs Central Africa Burundi Cameroon Central African Republic Congo Equatorial Guinea Gabon Rwanda Sao Tome & Principe Zaire East Africa Djibouti Ethiopia Kenya Somalia Tanzania Uganda Indian Ocean Comoros Madagascar Mauritius Seychelles Southern Africa Angola Botswana Lesotho Malawi Mozambique Namibia Republic of South Africa Reunion Swaziland Zambia Zimbabwe Western Africa Benin Burkina Faso Cape Verde Islands The Gambia Ghana Guinea Guinea-Bissau Ivory Coast Liberia Mali Niger Nigeria Senegal Sierra Leone Togo

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